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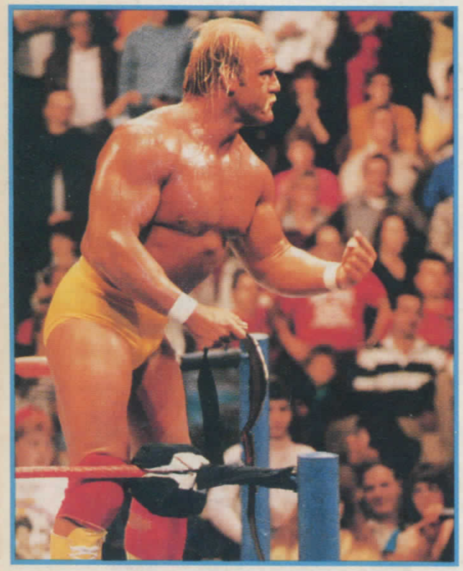

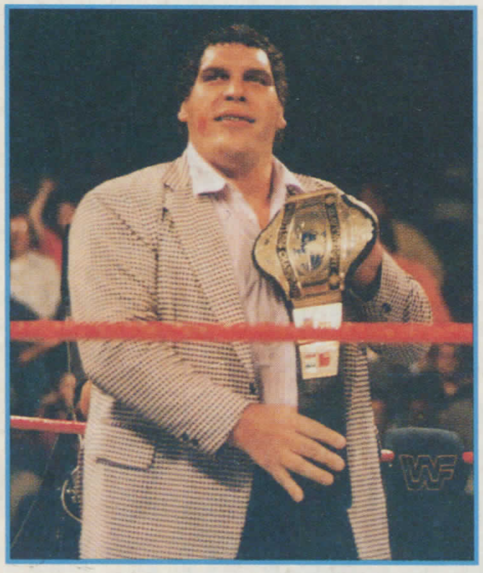

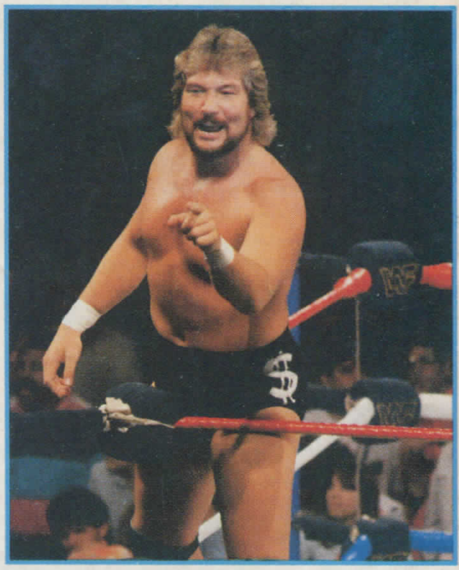

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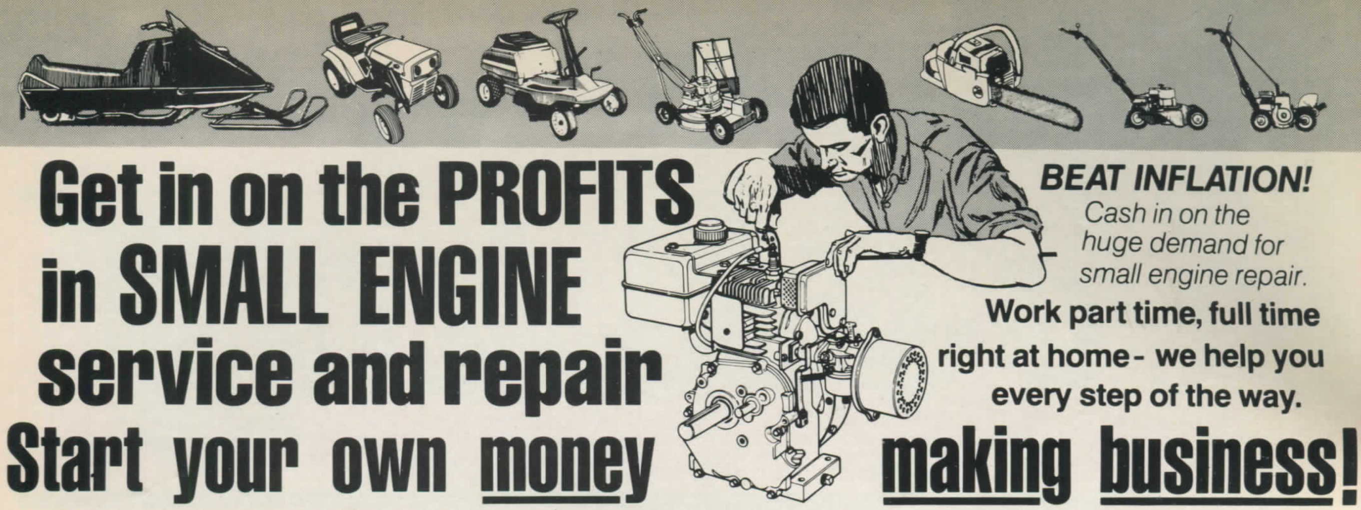

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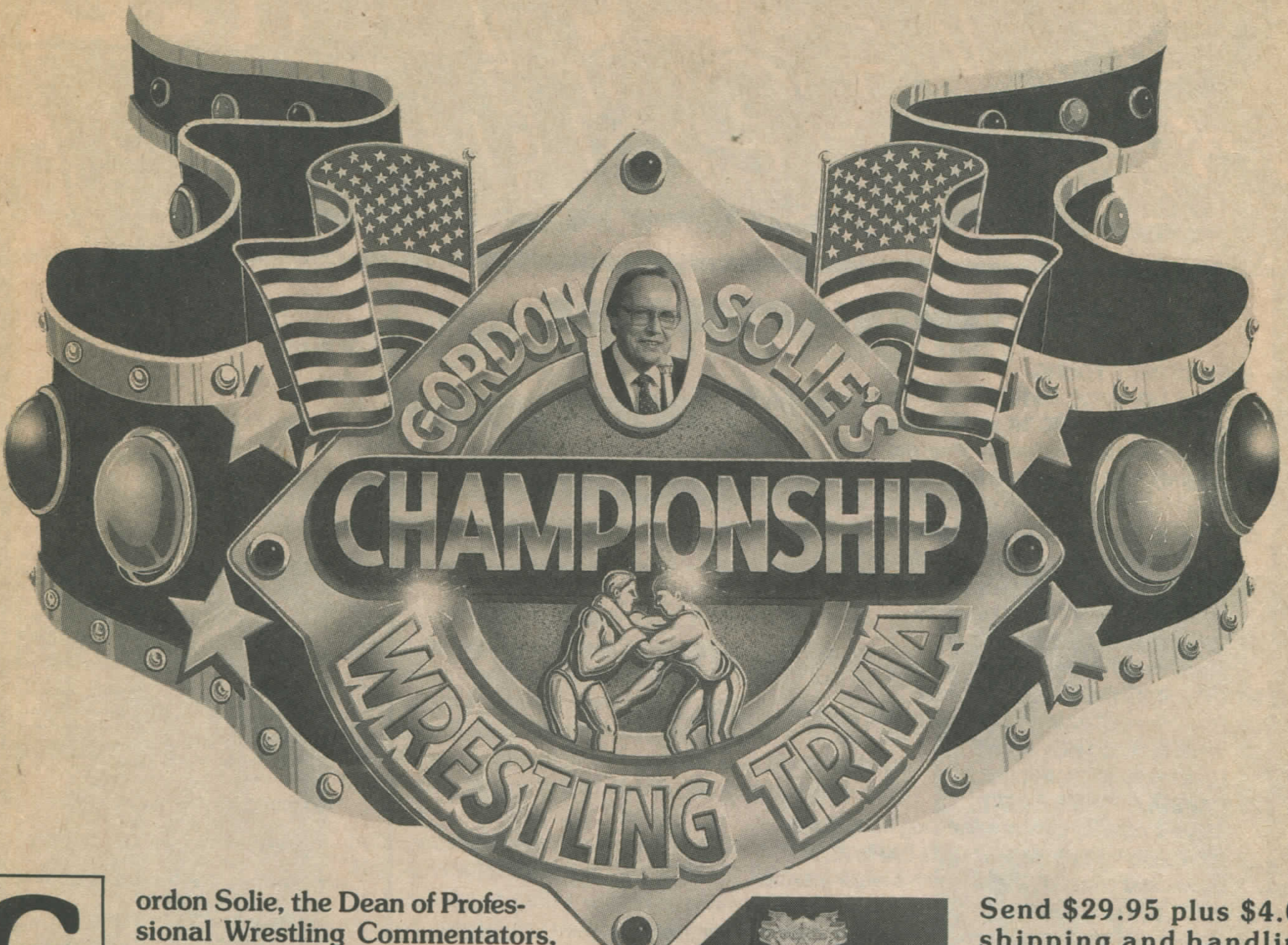

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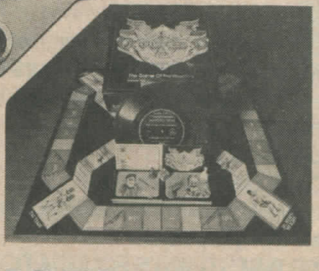

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CONTENTS/APRIL 1988

6 SINCERELY YOURS
Stand Tall, Sarge; Bad Moves; Backlund Over Hogan

8 EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK by Stu Saks
Nikita Koloff is on the verge of turning bad!

10 BEHIND THE DRESSING ROOM DOOR by Dave Rosenbaum
Hulk Hogan would never sell the WWF World title . . . or would he?

12 ON THE ROAD with Craig Peters
A Crockett-McMahon alliance is only a dream

14 NAMES MAKIN' NEWS by Bill Apter
All the latest news as of press time

18 THE INSIDER by Eddie Ellner
The Survivor Series, Dusty and Luger, Ric Flair, and The Slammys

20 ON ASSIGNMENT by Liz Hunter
Dusty should "adopt" Luger; Kerry Von Erich is a changed man

22 WHERE ARE THEY NOW?
Updates on four major mat stars

23 CAPSULE PROFILE #141
A mini-biography plus pinup of King Kong Bundy

26 NEWS FROM THE WRESTLING CAPITALS
Eyewitness coverage of the month's major matches

28 MATT BROCK'S PLAIN SPEAKING
Our veteran reporter goes on a tour of the independent promotions

30 BROTHERLY LOVE: KEVIN VON ERICH GIVES KERRY HIS SHOT AT GLORY
And sacrifices his own chance to win the World Class heavyweight title

32 OFFICIAL WRESTLING RATINGS
Top 15 rankings in seven important categories

33 *INSIDE WRESTLING* ROLL CALL OF CHAMPIONS
The most comprehensive championship directory available anywhere

34 THE ANDRE-DiBIASE-HOGAN CONNECTION: THIS SCANDAL HAS ROCKED WRESTLING'S FOUNDATION!
If the WWF World title is for sale, Ted DiBiase is buying

36 LEX LUGER! THE REASON FLAIR'S FIFTH REIGN WILL BE HIS SHORTEST!
"The Total Package" turns on the Horsemen and takes aim at Flair

38 JERRY LAWLER: "MY CWA BELT IS WORTH MORE THAN HENNIG'S AWA TITLE!"
A special "Hotseat" interview with "The King of Wrestling"

42 THE RUDE-ORNDORFF DEBATE IS OVER: THE ULTIMATE WARRIOR HAS THE ULTIMATE PHYSIQUE!
This young muscleman has taken the WWF by storm!

46 ONE ON ONE
Lex Luger vs. J.J. Dillon

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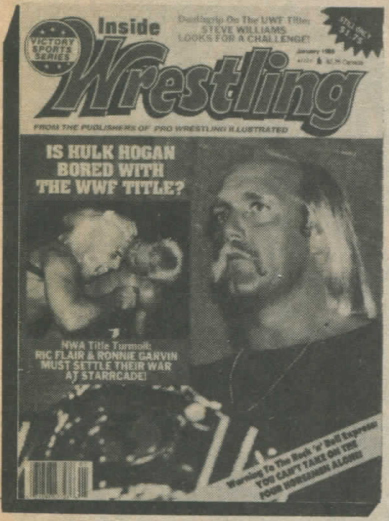
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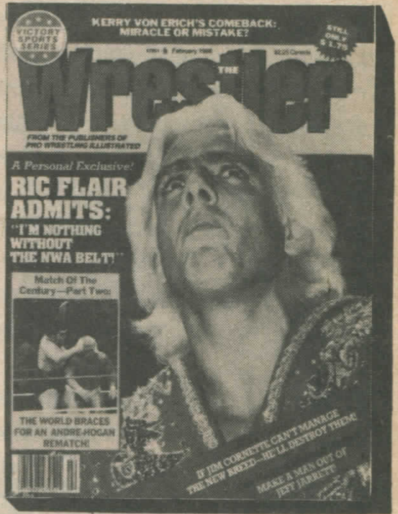
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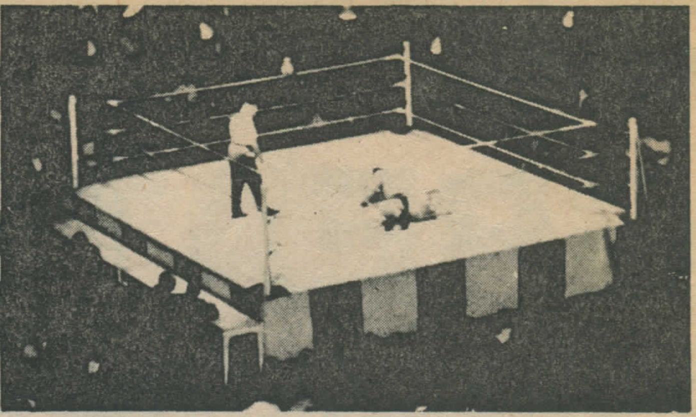


STAND TALL, SARGE

While reading your January 1988 issue, one item in particular caught my attention. This was the "One On One" with Sgt. Slaughter and The Iron Sheik.

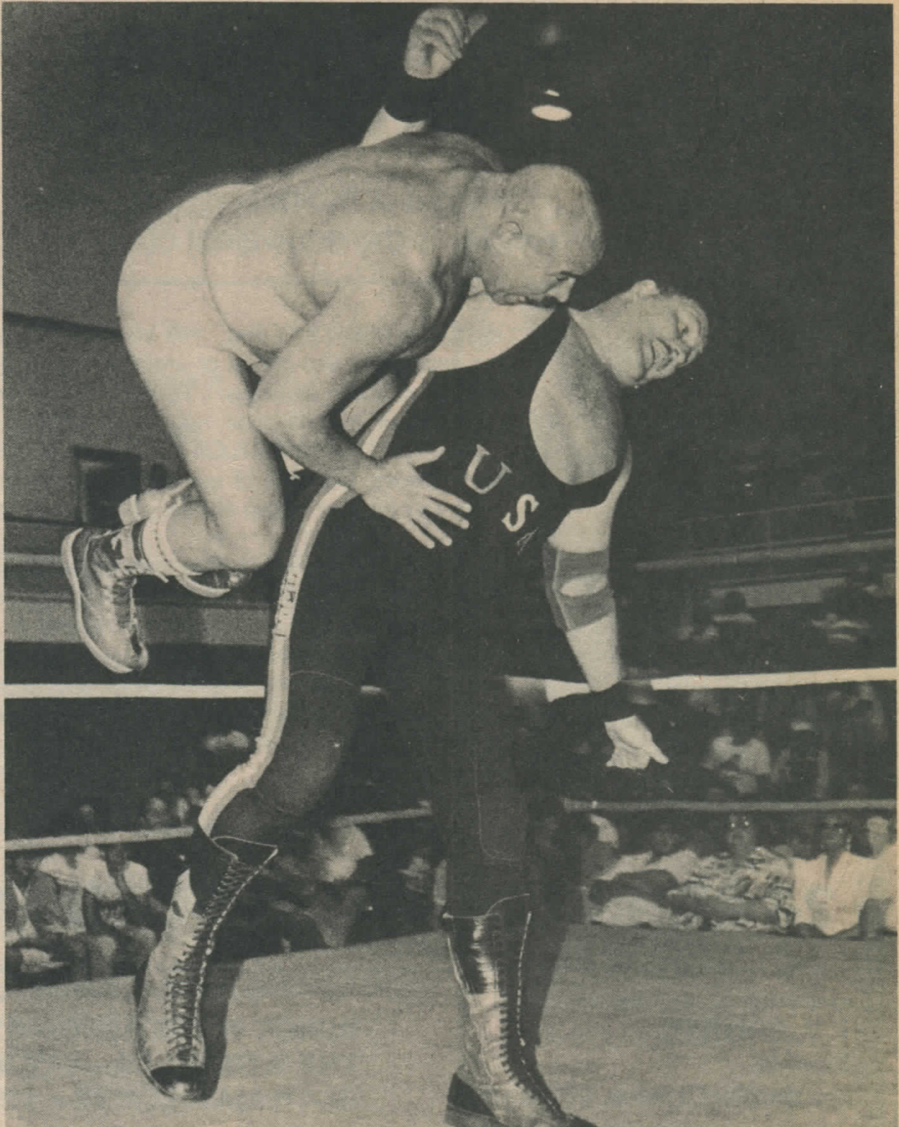
In this article, the Sheik commented that "American people would sit home and not support you . . . [They] do nothing that requires courage and sacrifice." He also made a comment about our involvement in Vietnam.

As a patriotic American and a diehard wrestling fan, I find that collection of worthless, anti-American rhetoric particularly disgusting. Where does he get off knocking the country that supports his worthless, camel-faced self?

As for the lack of support of the Sarge, I have in my possession an American-made, aluminum Louisville Slugger baseball bat and would consider it an honor and a privilege to either lend my bat to the Sarge or use it myself against this pond scum Iron Sheik.

You keep up the good work, Sarge. You've got plenty of support in Concord, North Carolina.

MARTY COFIELD
Concord, NC



The Iron Sheik finds himself the victim of a Sgt. Slaughter hiptoss. Reader Marty Cofield is disgusted by the Sheik's anti-American comments, and is eager to help Slaughter drive the Sheik out of wrestling.

FAR FROM DONE

Your article in the February 1988 issue, "Tully & Arn Take The NWA Belts: It's Time For The Rock 'n' Roll Express To Split Up!", is wrong. I wish everyone would leave the Rock 'n' Rolls alone. It's people like the one who wrote that article who might cause them to split up, but they won't because they can beat Tully and Arn. They've proved it in matches before and they can do it again.

Tully and Arn aren't the only ones with belts. Jim Cornette's Midnight Express has the U.S. belts, and if it wasn't for them, Tully and Arn wouldn't have the belts at all. The Rock 'n' Rolls can beat Cornette's team blindfolded.

You people just tick me off because

(Continued on page 48)

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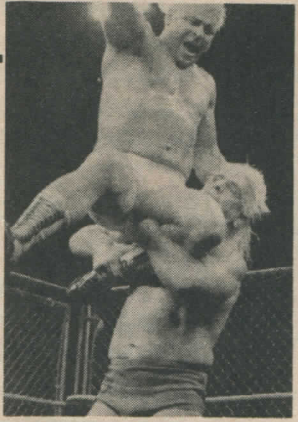

Ric Flair vs. Ronnie Garvin

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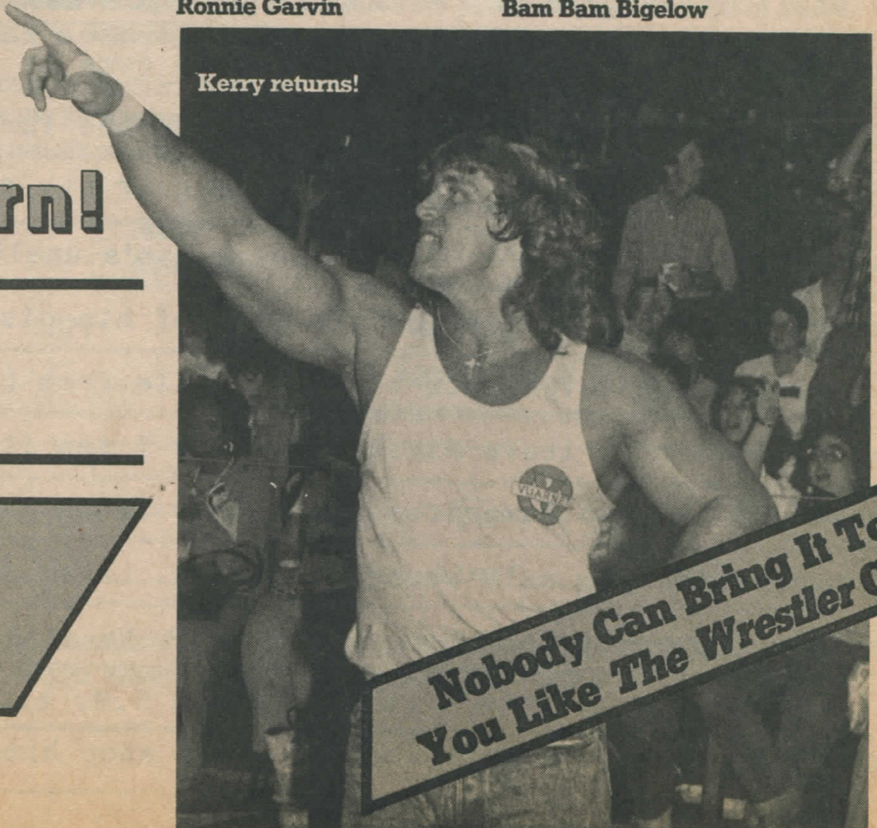

Kerry returns!

Nobody Can Bring It To You Like The Wrestler Can

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Stu Saks

Editor-in-Chief

When Lex Luger and The Four Horsemen had their violent falling out recently, Ivan Koloff was one happy Russian. You see, Luger's sudden turn to fan favorite has pushed Nikita Koloff that much closer to the brink of the rulebreaking ranks. By the time you read this, I wouldn't be at all surprised if the early candidate for 1988's Feud of the Year is Lex Luger and Dusty Rhodes vs. Nikita and Ivan Koloff!

Nikita's return to his rulebreaking roots would be a devastating blow to the fan favorite forces in the NWA, to the fans, and particularly to Magnum T.A., the man whose brush with death originally caused Nikita to reassess his values and join forces with Dusty Rhodes in Magnum's honor. But I've seen a change coming for several months now. Nikita has been under severe pressure. As much as both he and Dusty deny it, the relationship between the two men became strained after Luger defeated Nikita for the U.S. belt last July, and Dusty immediately--and seemingly with little regard for Nikita's feelings--set his sights on that prestigious title. As Nikita tried to come to grips with the disappointment of losing the belt, and the further disappointment of being denied a rematch by the actions of his friend and partner, sources tell me that Ivan Koloff, the young man's uncle, began to corner him at every opportunity, feeding the fire of his discontent.

With Dusty having won the U.S. title from Luger at Starrcade '87, where does that leave Nikita? The way I see it, he drops a notch in the ranks of the fan favorites. No longer is he the center of attention, no longer is he the only young muscleman. Luger is the new kid on the block and, undoubtedly, he'll get all the shots at Ric Flair's NWA World title.

As for Nikita, there is always the U.S. title. And the fact that Dusty holds the belt probably--sadly--won't stop him.

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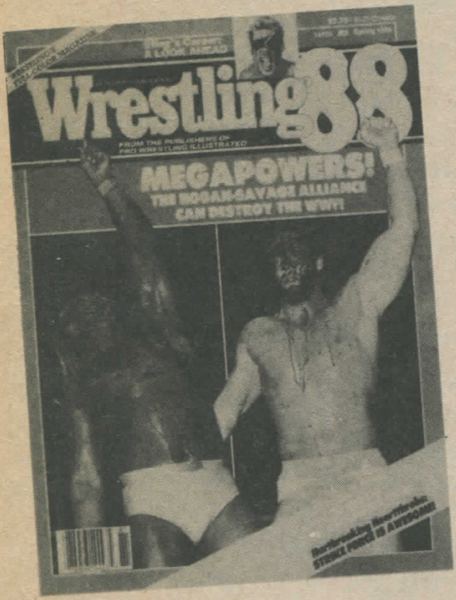
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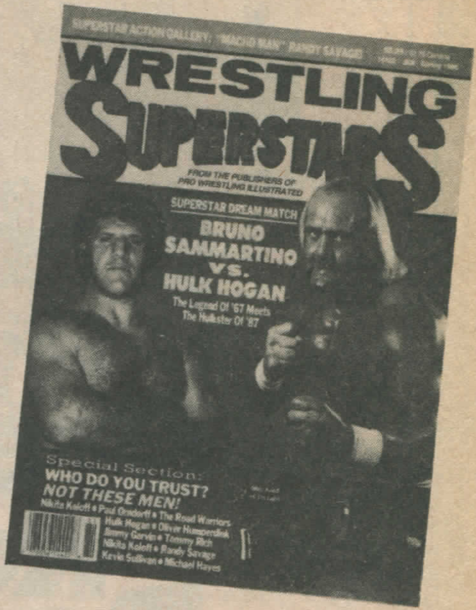
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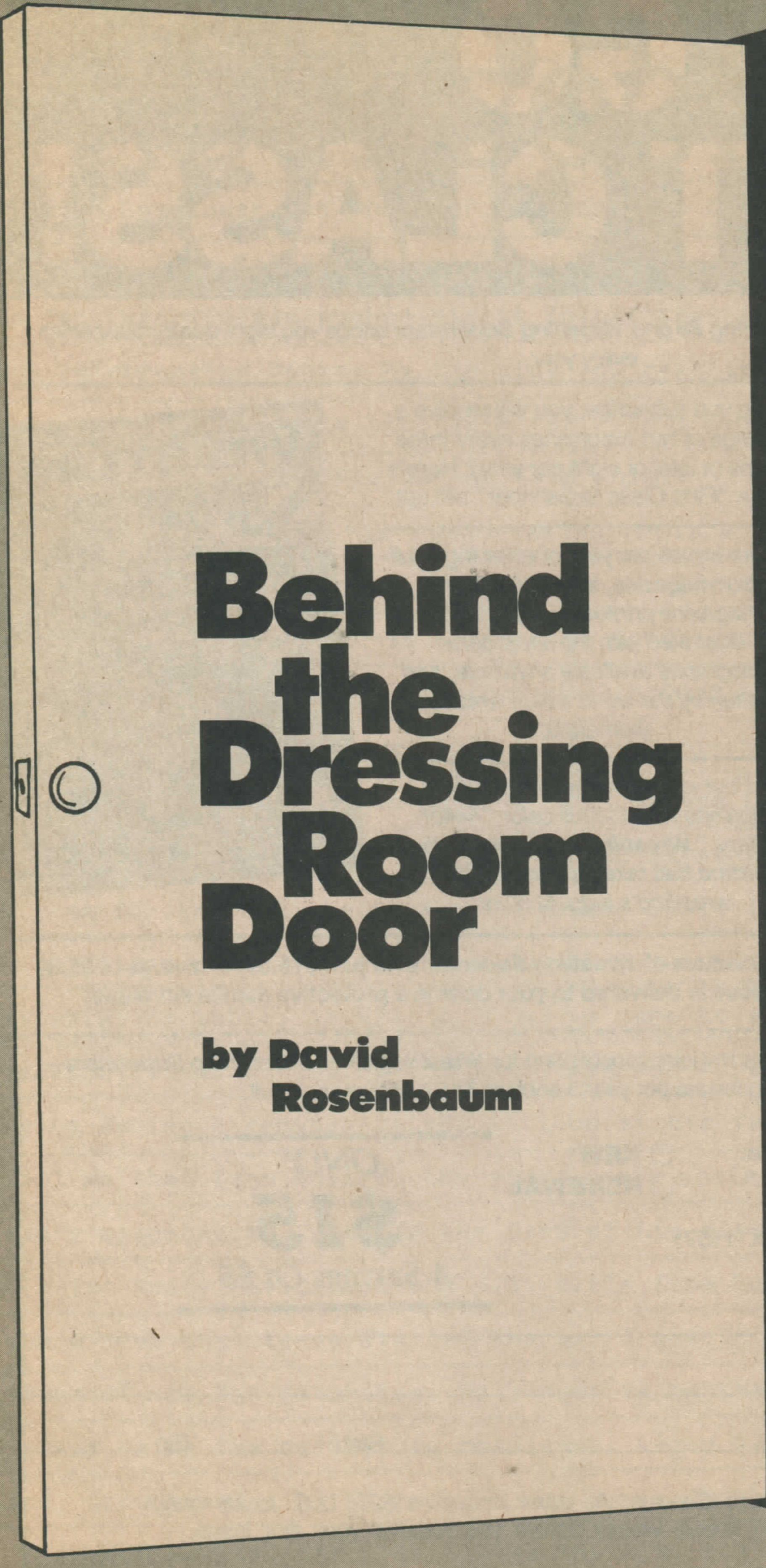


Behind the Dressing Room Door

by David Rosenbaum

HULK HOGAN IS a fraud.

I've always suspected this was true, and never suspected it more than I did last year when, just months before WrestleMania III, Hogan tried to make us believe that Andre the Giant was wrong to turn on him for a shot at the World title. But how could that be wrong when it was the only way Andre would ever get a chance to step into the ring against Hogan?

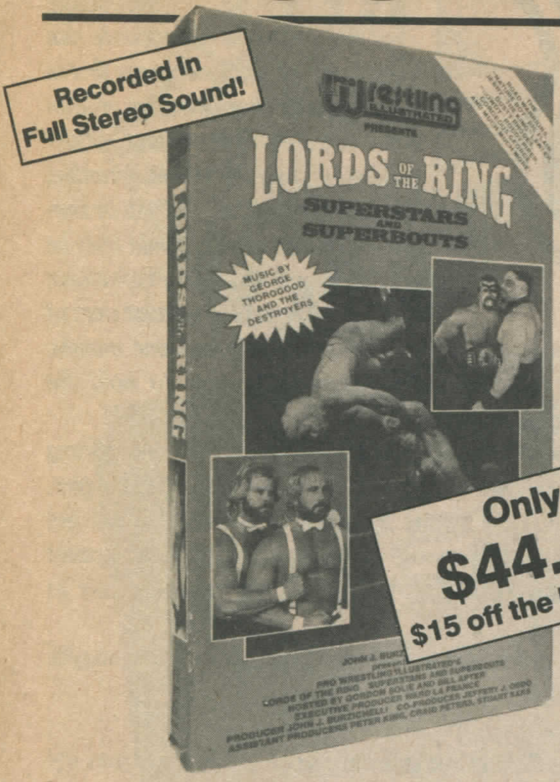
"All he had to do was ask me for a title shot and I would've given him one," said Hogan over and over. But this man has stabbed his friends in the back so many times it's become impossible to believe a word he says. Selfish Hogan steals the spotlight whenever he has the chance, and if you don't think so, just check out a tape of The Survivor Series. When Andre won the main event, Hogan, unable to accept defeat, ran out and attacked his so-called role model.

Hulk Hogan has shown us he knows how to win—by putting down his opponents, endlessly posing in the ring after victories, begging for more cheers (how insecure is this man?), and making his tag partners take a back seat to him (Bruno Sammartino, the greatest world champion of all time in *any* federation, certainly remembers last August in Baltimore when "The Hulkster" consciously upstaged "The Legend"). At The Survivor Series, Hogan showed us he knows how to lose, too.

Now the big one: Ted DiBiase, "The Million-Dollar Man," offered Hogan a sum of money said to be stretching deep into seven figures in exchange for the WWF World heavyweight championship belt.

(Continued on page 62)

DOUBLE FEATURE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- The Road Warriors vs. Ivan Koloff & Krusher Khrushchev
- Dusty Rhodes vs. Tully Blanchard (cage match)
- Magnum T.A. vs. Kamala
- Jimmy Valiant vs. Paul Jones
- Ole & Arn Anderson vs. Buzz Sawyer & Dick Slater
- Buddy Landell vs. Ron Bass
- Plus an outrageous six-man tag team match

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ON THE ROAD

with
CRAIG PETERS

I COULDN'T BELIEVE it when the press release crossed my desk. I read it three times, then read it twice more to be sure my eyes weren't fooling me:

Vince McMahon Jr. and James Crockett Jr., in association with the World Wrestling Federation and the National Wrestling Alliance, are proud to co-promote the first annual WorldCard '88!

The glossy four-color booklet was bursting with beautiful full-color photographs of Hulk Hogan, Ric Flair, Strike Force, The Road Warriors, Bam Bam Bigelow, Nikita Koloff, Rick Steamboat, Dusty Rhodes—in short, every top star that the WWF and NWA have to offer.

On page two there was a photograph of Crockett and McMahon shaking hands. The image of Reagan and Gorbachev shaking hands in Washington during the December summit meeting and nuclear weapons treaty signing flashed in my head. There was a caption under the photo:

Vince McMahon

WWF head Vince McMahon meets with NWA promoter Jim Crockett to iron out the promotional details of what promises to be the largest wrestling card of all time.

In order to provide the proper attention that needs to be accorded each of these bouts, the press release continued, *there will be only three matches. But these three matches promise to provide an unparalleled level of drama and excitement heretofore never seen in the wrestling world.*

I looked at the match lineup and drooled:

- WWF World champion Hulk Hogan to face NWA World champion Ric Flair with neither title on the line but a million-dollar purse at stake.
- WWF Intercontinental champion The Honky Tonk Man to face U.S. heavyweight champion Dusty Rhodes in a title unification match; the winner retains his title, the loser's federation liquidates that championship.
- A combination Survivor Series/War Games bout pitting two teams of 16 men against each other in a double-ring steel cage match. Team one includes Randy Savage, Lex Luger, Bam Bam Bigelow, The Road Warriors, Strike Force, Nikita Koloff, Rick Steamboat, Sting, Jake Roberts, The New Breed, Steve Williams, and The British Bulldogs; team two consists of Ted DiBiase, Tully Blanchard, Andre the Giant, The Hart Foundation, The Midnight Express, Terry Taylor, Rick Rude, Larry Zbyszko, One Man Gang, Arn Anderson, Demolition, and The Sheepherders.

As if that wasn't enough, there was a special insert in the press package in the form of a letter signed by both Crockett and McMahon:

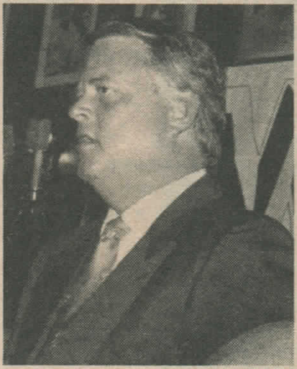
We are proud to announce that WorldCard '88 will be only the first in an ongoing series of cooperative promotional ventures between Jim Crockett Promotions and the World Wrestling Federation. WorldCard '88 will be simply the first step in what could truly be called The World Series Of Professional Wrestling, blending the greatest stars of the NWA and WWF into one massive roster from which matchmakers will be able to hold the greatest cards ever known!

I was speechless. I grabbed the press kit and swung around in my chair to show it to Senior Editor Bill Apter. But in my haste, I swung around too fast and slipped out of my chair, falling to the floor, grazing my head against the side of my desk, and falling into the beanbag chair at the . . .

. . . well, it felt like a beanbag chair, sort of, but maybe it was a pillow . . .

. . . it was . . .

. . . it was 7:00 in the morning when I woke up from my dream. Two hours later I was at my desk hearing about "The Royal Rumble," a WWF event to be held the same day as the finals of The Bunkhouse Stampede.


Jim Crockett

The Royal Rumble is a sort of battle royal lottery, where each man is assigned a number. Two numbers are chosen, and those two men wrestle for a few minutes. Then, every few minutes, another number is chosen and another man enters the ring, one at a time, until all the numbers are chosen and every man involved has had the opportunity to enter the match. The bout continues until one man is left.

Perfect, I thought to myself. *First the NWA and WWF go head to head on Starrcade day, now they're doing the same thing on the finals of the Bunkhouse Stampede. Before you know it, The Crockett Cup will take place on WrestleMania day, the WWF will come up with something to take place during all the Great American Bash cards, the the fans are the ones who get screwed.*

With 365 days in the year, there's plenty of room for all the events that all the promotions want to conduct. It's too bad that Crockett and McMahon can't work in conjunction with each other instead of working against each other—and making the fans suffer. It would be great if they could get together and iron out their differences.

Unfortunately, it's only a dream. ☐

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NAMES MAKIN

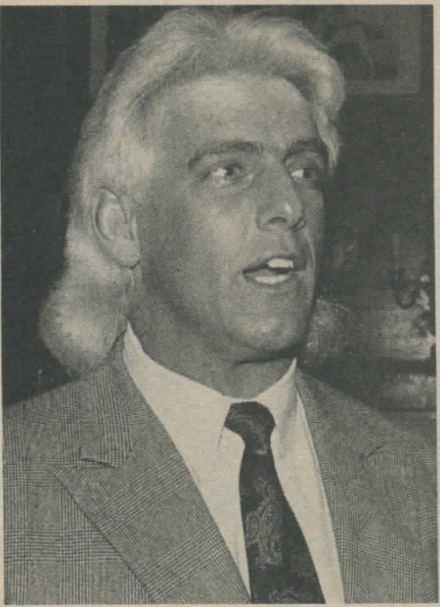
THE SHEEPHERDERS

The NWA has merged with the UWF and dissolved the UWF tag team title, formerly held by ***The Sheepherders***. ***Jim Crockett***, President of Jim Crockett Promotions, also announced that the UWF heavyweight title, held by ***Steve Williams***, will remain intact until a unification match between the NWA World champion and the UWF champion is held, probably this month.

"Effective immediately, the UWF tag team title is dissolved," said Crockett. "The UWF heavyweight title will continue to be defended until a unification match. The winner of that match will be known as the NWA World heavyweight champion and the UWF heavyweight title will also be dissolved. In addition, the Western States title, currently held by ***Barry Windham***, has been officially designated an NWA title."

The UWF and NWA TV titles were unified at Starrcade '87 when NWA champ ***Nikita Koloff*** defeated ***Terry Taylor***. The UWF's extensive roster of wrestlers will continue to wrestle in the NWA. Actually, the only wrestlers hurt by the merger are The Sheepherders, ***Butch Miller*** and ***Luke Williams***, who have gone from champions to contenders without actually losing the belts.

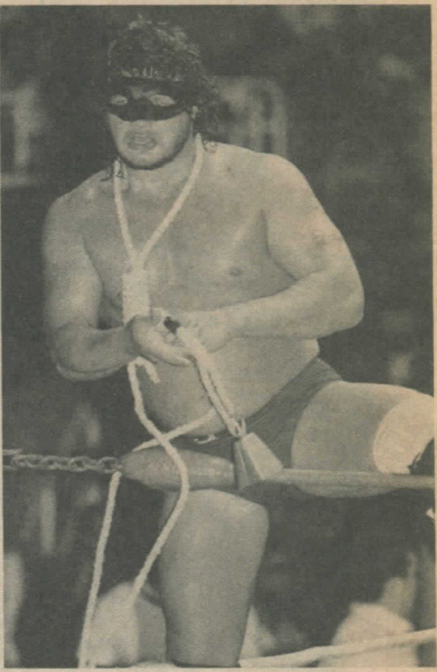
"The bloody cheating Americans wouldn't have done this if one of their pretty boys was champion," said Williams. "The bloody Americans have been stealing from us all our lives, and now they're doing it again! We were the UWF bloody tag team champions, and they knew we'd never lose it, so they just took it away! We aim on getting revenge and we ain't foolin' around."



RIC FLAIR

The UWF heavyweight title will be listed in *Inside Wrestling's* "Roll Call Of Champions" until the unification match takes place.

World Pacific champion ***Superfly Tui*** has asked the NWA for a shot at World champion ***Ric Flair***. Promoter ***Lia Maivia*** is currently negotiating with Jim Crockett Promotions . . . ***D.J. Petersen*** recently won the Central States title from ***Bulldog Bob Brown*** . . . ***Ron Fuller*** has announced his retirement from wrestling. Fuller last wrestled in the Continental Championship Wrestling area . . . ***Jimmy Jack Funk*** is feuding with ***Jerry Lawler*** in the CWA. Funk says he is hoping to restore the Funk family name that he claims Lawler tried to discredit.



JIMMY JACK FUNK

Ted DiBiase gained one of his most important WWF victories when he defeated ***Rick Steamboat*** at the Capital Centre in Landover, Maryland. DiBiase scored the pin when his bodyguard, ***Virgil***, grabbed Steamboat's leg near the ropes. Virgil tripped Steamboat and held his foot while DiBiase delivered a bodypress. DiBiase, of course, is at the center of the WWF World title controversy. He has reached an agreement with ***Bobby Heenan*** to buy the title from ***Andre the Giant*** if the Giant wins it from ***Hulk Hogan.*** DiBiase, however, has already scored two victories over Hogan and would probably do better to concentrate on beating "The Hulkster" by himself.

Kerry Von Erich won a Stingray automobile in a pole battle royal at

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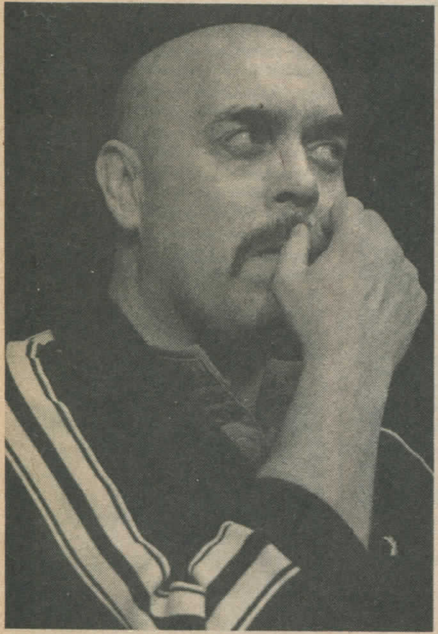
IN' NEWS

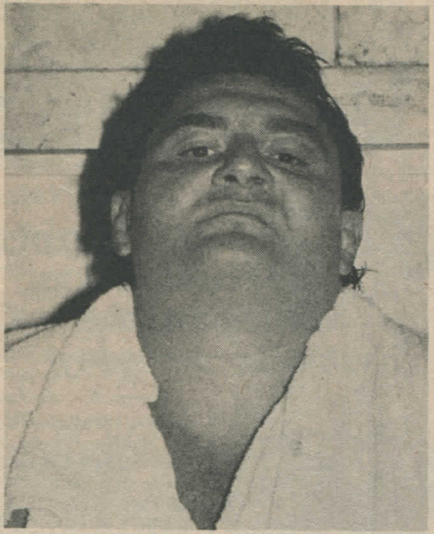
Bill Apter reporting...

World Class' Christmas show at Reunion Arena. On the same card, ***Eric Embry*** regained the Texas junior heavyweight title from ***Shaun Simpson*** . . . ***The Midnight Rockers*** wrestled to a 30-minute time-limit draw with AWA World champions, "The Original" ***Midnight Express*** on Christmas Day in Minneapolis . . . "Jasonmania" is running wild in Calgary! Stampede wrestling fans are coming to the arenas wearing hockey masks in the style of newly converted fan favorite ***Jason the Terrible***! Jason had been, until recently, the most hated and feared man in Stampede.

An unusual series of events led to the firing of ***The Thing*** by manager ***Percy Pringle***. ***Killer Brooks*** sold The Thing to Pringle for $50,000, but ***Gary Hart*** laughed when he found out since he knew that Brooks did not sell Pringle the *real* Thing. New Age Management, consisting of Hart and ***Vince Apollo***, signed ***The Real Thing.*** Pringle immediately fired The Thing and got mad at Brooks when he refused to refund his money. Now Brooks, an ally of New Age Management, is helping out with The Real Thing. The Thing has left World Class. Things like this confuse you? Me, too!



GARY HART



ADRIAN ADONIS

Paul E. Dangerously, one of the most influential individuals in the AWA, often helps his men win matches simply by enraging their opponents. ***Adrian Adonis*** defeated ***Wahoo McDaniel*** by disqualification at the AWA's Christmas show when Wahoo stole Dangerously's telephone and used it to attack Paul, Adonis, *and* referee ***Gary DeRusha***. "They just can't control themselves when I'm around," said Dangerously. "I must bring out the worst in them!"

A weightlifting contest between ***The Road Warriors*** and ***Konga the Barbarian*** and ***The Warlord*** appears imminent. ***Paul Jones***, manager of Konga and Warlord, publicly challenged ***Paul Ellering's*** men to a contest to see who the strongest men in wrestling are. Jones offered Ellering $25,000 to accept his challenge and it appears to be only a matter of time before Ellering does so.

"Everybody knows that Animal and Hawk are the strongest men in wrestling, and I don't think we have to prove it," said Ellering. "The Road Warriors show it every time they step into the ring and devastate those smurfs they throw against us. But Jones has a big mouth, and I want to shut him up. Sometimes he makes me laugh, but this time he finally put his money where his mouth is, and I'll be only too glad to take it."

As reported in May issue of *Pro Wrestling Illustrated,* ***Mama Cornette*** has ordered her son, ***Jim Cornette,*** to separate ***The Midnight Express*** occasionally so they can go after ***Dusty Rhodes'*** U.S. title. ***Bobby Eaton*** figures to get most of the title shots at the outset . . . The WWF's *Piledriver* album achieved gold record status in Canada within two months of its release for selling over 50,000 albums. *The Wrestling Album* also went gold in Canada.

JIM CORNETTE

That's all for now, fans! See you at the matches! ☐

BACK ISSUES OF

Inside Wrestling

VICTORY SPORTS SERIES

Be sure to fill in the gaps in your collection of INSIDE WRESTLING, "The magazine that rips the lid off pro wrestling." Get all the information you need to keep up on the pro wrestling scene. Don't be left out. Avoid sellouts—order today!

July 1974/Stories include: Garea, Zbyszko, Heenan, Strongbow.

September 1974/Stories include: Sammartino, Graham, Brooks, Bruiser.

November 1974/Stories include: Garvins, Mascaras, Sammartino, Graham.

August 1975/Stories include: Valentine, Garea, Rhodes, Sammartino.

September 1975/Stories include: Mascaras, Funk, Valiants, Gagne.

February 1976/Stories include: Andre, Strongbow, Lewin, Brazil.

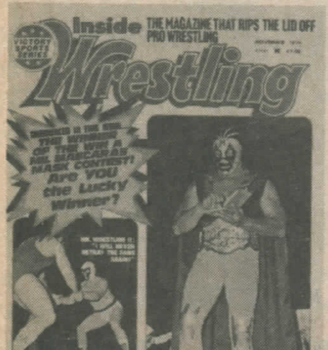
March 1976/Stories include: Ladd, Funk, Sheik, Robinson.

April 1976/Stories include: Mascaras, Albano, Flair, Brisco.

August 1976/Stories include: Funks, Mascaras, Sammartino, Putski.

September 1976/Stories include: Andre, Funk, Hansen, Mascaras.

October 1976/Stories include: Sammartino, Race, Johnson, Jones.


Inside
THE MAGAZINE THAT RIPS THE LID OFF PRO WRESTLING
Wrestling
Are You the Lucky Winner?
Five Former NWA Kings Blast: "TERRY FUNK IS A DISGRACE TO THE TITLE!"

NOVEMBER 1976

November 1976/Stories include: Mascaras, Wrestling II, Funk, Sammartino.

December 1976/Stories include: Stasiak, Rhodes, Bockwinkel, Orton.

January 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Brisco, Funk, Gagne.

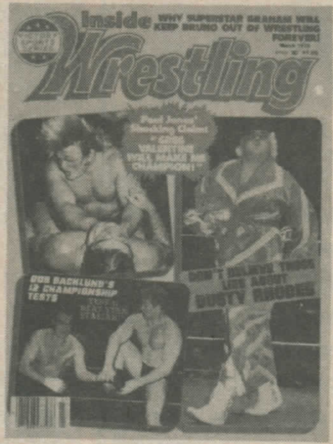
August 1977/Stories include: Backlund, Graham, Mascaras, Lawler.

September 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Andre, Mascaras, Brisco.

October 1977/Stories include: Andre, Rhodes, Backlund, Mulligan.

November 1977/Stories include: Graham, Rhodes, Mascaras, Gagne.

December 1977/Stories include: Andre, Mascaras, Johnson, Maivia.


Inside
WHY SUPERSTAR GRAHAM WILL KEEP BRUNO OUT OF WRESTLING FOREVER!
Wrestling
BOB BACKLUND'S 10 CHAMPIONSHIP TESTS
DON'T BELIEVE THOSE LIES ABOUT DUSTY RHODES

MARCH 1978

March 1978/Stories include: Rhodes, Valentine, Backlund, Bockwinkel.

April 1978/Stories include: Backlund, Graham, Steamboat, Bruiser.

August 1978/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, Andre, Hansen.

October 1978/Stories include: Sammartino, Andre, Rhodes, McDaniel.

November 1978/Stories include: Rhodes, Backlund, Flair, Steamboat.

December 1978/Stories include: Sammartino, Rhodes, Wrestling II, Bravo.

Inside
SHOULD BRUNO RETURN TO THE WWWF? The Choice Is Yours!
Wrestling
THE SHATTERED DREAMS OF DUSTY RHODES
DINO BRAVO: "WITHOUT A BELT, YOU'RE NOTHING!"

DECEMBER 1978

January 1979/Stories include: Sammartino, Mulligan, Rhodes, Backlund.

February 1979/Stories include: Race, Sammartino, Steamboat, Ladd.

April 1979/Stories include: Andre, Flair, Backlund, Jones.

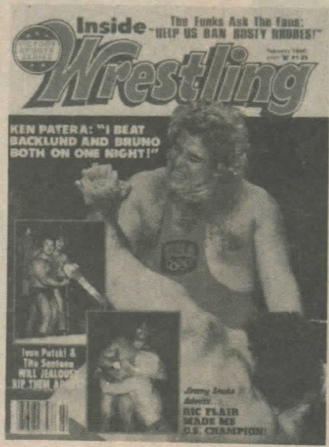
May 1979/Stories include: Steamboat, Rhodes, Backlund, Heenan.

June 1979/Stories include: Rhodes, Superstar, Bockwinkel, Backlund.

July 1979/Stories include: Rhodes, Ladd, Valiant, Brower.

August 1979/Stories include: Flair, Garvin, Race, Sammartino.

September 1979/Stories include: Steamboat, Mascaras, Strongbow, Garvin.


Inside
The Funks Ask The Fans: HELP US BAN DUSTY RHODES!
Wrestling
KEN PATERA: "I BEAT BACKLUND AND BRUNO BOTH ON ONE NIGHT!"
RIC FLAIR MADE ME U.S. CHAMPION!

FEBRUARY 1980

February 1980/Stories include: Patera, Snuka, Santana, Albano.

April 1980/Stories include: Hogan, Rich, Backlund, Mascaras.

May 1980/Stories include: Sammartino, Murdoch, Mulligan, Bockwinkel.

June 1980/Stories include: Putski, Andre, Hernandez, Keirn.

July 1980/Stories include: Rhodes, Von Erich, Superstar, Blassie.

August 1980/Stories include: Sammartino, Wrestling II, Baker, Koloff.

September 1980/Stories include: Mascaras, Rhodes, Ladd, Iron Sheik.

November 1980/Stories include: Rhodes, Putski, Bockwinkel, Koloff.

January 1981/Stories include: Race, Snuka, Morales, Slater.

February 1981/Stories include: Backlund, DiBiase, Bravo, Anderson.

April 1981/Stories include: Albano, Sammartino Jr., Race, McGraw.

May 1981/Stories include: Iron Sheik, Von Erich, Backlund, Santana.

June 1981/Stories include: Rhodes, Hansen, Piper, Gagne.

September 1981/Stories include: Patera, Koloff, Khan, Junkyard Dog.

January 1982/Stories include: Flair, Hogan, Race, Humperdink.

February 1982/Stories include: Valentine, Flair, Steamboat, Rhodes.

March 1982/Stories include: Rich, Backlund, Idol, Spoiler.

April 1982/Stories include: Rhodes, Andre, Von Erich, Piper.

May 1982/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, Hogan, Von Erich.

June 1982/Stories include: Valentine, Von Erich, Slaughter, Morales.

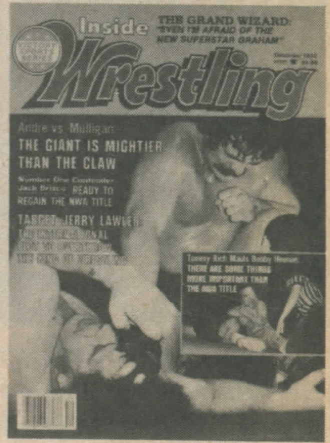
July 1982/Stories include: Hogan, Rhodes, Steamboat, Adonis.

August 1982/Stories include: Andre, Bockwinkel, Steamboat, Backlund.

September 1982/Stories include: Atlas, Piper, Lawler, Brody.

October 1982/Stories include: Rich, Andre, Piper, Dillon.

November 1982/Stories include: Flair, Snuka, Von Erich, Slaughter.


Inside
THE GRAND WIZARD: "EVEN I'M AFRAID OF THE NEW SUPERSTAR GRAHAM"
Wrestling
Andre vs. Mulligan
THE GIANT IS MIGHTIER THAN THE CLAW
TARGET: JERRY LAWLER

DECEMBER 1982

December 1982/Stories include: Mulligan, Rich, Lawler, Grand Wizard.

February 1983/Stories include: Rhodes, Hogan, DiBiase, Race.

March 1983/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Graham, Johnson, Funk.

April 1983/Stories include: Snuka, Patera, Kabuki, Rich.

May 1983/Stories include: Rich, Snuka, Sullivan, Steamboat.

June 1983/Stories include: Studd, Garvin, Rogers, Orton.

July 1983/Stories include: Hogan, Freebirds, Rhodes, Youngblood.

August 1983/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Garvin, Sullivan, Lawler.

September 1983/Stories include: Zbyszko, Piper, Andre, Hayes.

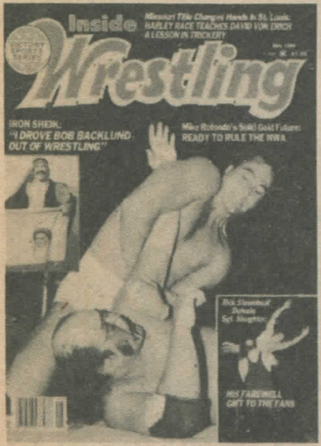
October 1983/Stories include: Wrestling II, Backlund, Junkyard Dog, Rhodes.

November 1983/Stories include: Hogan, Reed, Von Erich, Dillon.

December 1983/Stories include: Von Erich, Samoans, Valiant, Road Warriors.

March 1984/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Rich, Rhodes, Garvin.

April 1984/Stories include: Flair, Steamboat, Superstar, Windham.


Inside Wrestling
Missouri Title Changes Hands In St. Louis: HARLEY RACE TEACHES DAVID VON ERICH A LESSON IN TRICKERY
IRON SHEIK: "I DROVE BOB BACKLUND OUT OF WRESTLING"
Mike Rotundo's Solid Gold Future: READY TO RULE THE NWA
Rick Steamboat Defeats Sgt. Slaughter
HIS FAREWELL GIFT TO THE FANS

MAY 1984

May 1984/Stories include: Iron Sheik, Steamboat, Rotundo, Von Erich.

June 1984/Stories include: Flair, Slaughter, Cornette, DiBiase.

July 1984/Stories include: Valiant, Flair, Martel, Wrestling II.

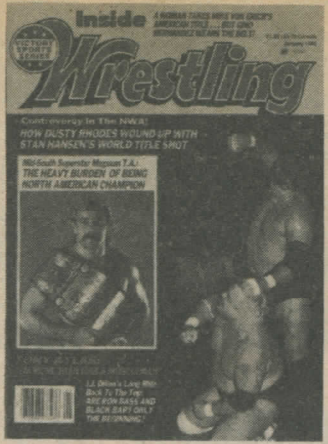
August 1984/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Magnum T.A., Idol, Spoiler.

September 1984/Stories include: Martel, Brody, Von Erich, Iron Sheik.

October 1984/Stories include: Billy Jack, Road Warriors, Steamboat, Piper.

November 1984/Stories include: Rhodes, Rich, Hernandez, Warriors.

December 1984/Stories include: Hogan, Warriors, Sullivan, Magnum T.A.


Inside Wrestling
Controversy In The NWA!
HOW DUSTY RHODES WOUND UP WITH STAN HANSEN'S WORLD TITLE SHOT
Mid-South Superstar Magnum T.A.: THE HEAVY BURDEN OF BEING NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPION

JANUARY 1985

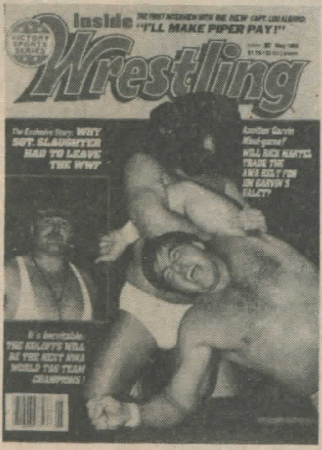
January 1985/Stories include: Magnum T.A., Rhodes, Atlas, Von Erich.

February 1985/Stories include: Rich, Adams, Valiant, Flair.

March 1985/Stories include: Backlund, Billy Jack, Koloffs, Von Erichs.

April 1985/Stories include: Warriors, Albano & Hogan, Steamboat, Gordy.

May 1985/Stories include: Slaughter, Garvin, Albano, Koloffs.


Inside Wrestling
"I'LL MAKE PIPER PAY!"
WHY SGT. SLAUGHTER HAD TO LEAVE THE WWF
It's Inevitable: THE KOLOFFS WILL BE THE NEXT NWA WORLD TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS!

MAY 1985

June 1985/Stories include: Warriors, Slaughter, Von Erichs, Studd & Patera.

July 1985/Stories include: Hogan, Von Erich, Nikita, Warriors.

August 1985/Stories include: Wrestlemania, Zbyszko vs. The Tonga Kid.

September 1985/Stories include: Piper, Flair, Fantastics, Magnum T.A.

October 1985/Stories include: Russian menace, Von Erichs, Rude & Barr.

November 1985/Stories include: Steamboat, Adams, Freebirds, Cornette.

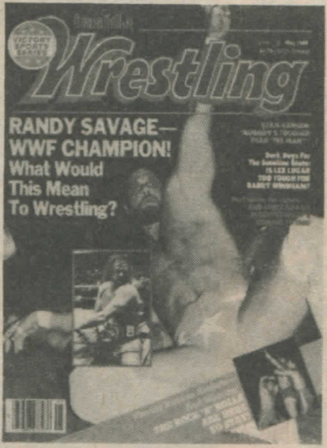
December 1985/Stories include: Santana, Brody, Andersons, Murdoch.

January 1986/Stories include: Steamboat, Mike Von Erich, Warriors.

February 1986/Stories include: R'n'R Express, Warriors, Mulligan & Windham.

March 1986/Stories include: Windham & Rotundo, Warriors-Russians, Rude.

April 1986/Stories include: Scott Hall, Rhodes, Flair, Andre, Bill Watts


Wrestling
RANDY SAVAGE— WWF CHAMPION!
What Would This Mean To Wrestling?

MAY 1986

May 1986/Stories include: Randy Savage, Stan Hansen, Rock 'n' Rolls.

June 1986/Stories include: Bulldogs, Windham-Flair, Lance Von, Blanchard.

July 1986/All-American Special Issue. Stories include: Hogan, Slaughter, T.A.

August 1986/Stories include: Wrestle-Mania 2, Garvins, Martel, Fab Ones.

September 1986/Stories include: Andre,Rhodes-T.A., Adams, Windham.

October 1986/Stories include: Flair-Lugar, Savage, Fantastics, Warriors.

Wrestling
Paul Ellering's Own Story
"HOW MY ROAD WARRIORS MADE DUSTY RHODES NWA WORLD CHAMPION"
THE BRITISH BULLDOGS

NOVEMBER 1986

November 1986/Stories include: Warriors-Flair, Bulldogs, Watts, Adams.

December 1986/Stories include: Hogan-Adonis, R&R Express, Baby Doll.

January 1987/Stories include: Rude-Flair, Piper, T.A., Taylor.

February 1987/Stories include: Hogan-Piper-Orndorff, Taylor, Flair.

March 1987/Stories include: Flair, Missy, Luger, Bulldogs, Koloffs.

April 1987/Stories include: Windham, Steamboat, Ellering, Duggan.

May 1987/Stories include: Windham & Luger, Steamboat, Hogan-Andre.

June 1987/Stories include: Piper-Adonis, Horsemen, Adams, Hall, Brody.

July 1987/Stories include: Danny Davis, DiBiase, Rockers, Rotundo, Andersons.

August 1987/Stories include: Dusty & Nikita, Hogan, Mike Von, Cornette.

September 1987/Stories include: Hogan-Race, R&R Exp., Rich, Honky Tonk.

October 1987/Stories include: R&R Express, Hogan, Taylor-Adams, Lawler.

November 1987/Stories include: War Games, Mr. T, Bulldogs, Rhodes.

December 1987/Stories include: Freebirds, Rhodes, Magnum, Savage, Perez.

January 1988/Stories include: R&R-Horsemen, Hogan, Flair-Garvin.

February 1988/Stories include: Savage, Kevin Von, Sting, Tully & Arn.

March 1988/Stories include: Bigelow, Adams, Koloff, Honky Tonk, Freebirds.

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THE INSIDER

By Eddie Ellner

[The opinions expressed in "The Insider" are those of Eddie Ellner alone, and do not necessarily represent the opinions of anyone else on the staff of this magazine.]

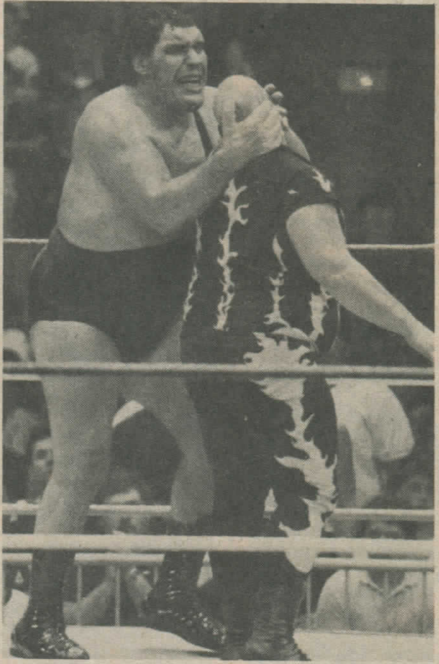
QUITE A MONTH, wouldn't you say? Between the Survivor Series, the Bunkhouse Stampede, the Slammys, and innumerable title changes, it appeared to many that the landscape of pro wrestling had dramatically changed.

Sigh. The more things change the more they stay the same.

The Survivor Series. If you've ever spent time on the battlefield, in cancer wards, or in burn units, then you're familiar with the sickly sweet smell of death. The foreboding scent of rotting, putrefied flesh, betraying the great void soon to follow, is an odor not soon forgotten.

It is also the answer to the question: *How does Andre the Giant continue to win big matches?*

Andre, as should be obvious to everyone, is dying. The machinery of his giant, twisted frame is breaking apart like Skylab re-entering the atmosphere. His very skeleton can be heard issuing desperate cries of "Please! Please! Pull the plug." Meanwhile, his death stench so disarms opponents that it's allowed the Giant Idiot to keep on winning, though the few skills he once had are nothing but faded memories.



Andre the Giant controls Bam Bam Bigelow during The Survivor Series. In Eddie Ellner's opinion, Andre's physical deterioration parallels the loss of his wrestling ability.

WWF promoters keep carting him out for main events because the public never tires of freaks. To all who watched, Andre's defeat of Bam Bam Bigelow in the Survivor Series set the stage for an Andre/Hogan rematch at WrestleMania IV. But why? Did Andre really do anything in the Survivor Series? Bigelow was spent, having disposed of One Man Gang and King Kong Bundy before he squared off against Andre. That's almost a half ton of eager, rule-breaking flesh. The finishing suplex Andre applied to Bigelow was so badly executed one must wonder if Bam Bam didn't have his hand in the cookie jar. Remember, WrestleMania III was a multimillion-dollar promotion. Andre-Hogan II is worth at least that much. What's a few hundred thousand in Bigelow's pocket to assure the big event goes off without a hitch?

Just a thought. But keep in mind the picture of Andre the Giant as he *really* is: slow, stupid, unresponsive. Is he really any match for Hogan?

Dusty Rhodes Captures U.S. Title. Although Dusty Rhodes' victory over Lex Luger casts hefty shadows on the new year, some good may yet come of it. Distressed at J.J. Dillon's constant interference (Rhodes DDT'd Luger on the chair Dillon tossed into the ring), Luger attacked Dillon in the finals of the first Bunkhouse Stampede and announced his decision to leave The Four Horsemen. This poses some questions: Will Luger and Rhodes team up and pursue the remaining Horsemen? Will Luger flee the NWA for the WWF and a shot at Hulk Hogan? What will happen to the profits from The Four Horsemen clothing line?

How much Luger is his own man remains to be seen. In his brief career he has never been without management. As a rookie, Luger was handled by Hiro Matsuda and Bob Roop. Soon after he arrived in the World Championship area he joined the Horsemen.

A specimen like Luger comes along once a generation. Though he must avoid parasites like Flair, Dillon, Blanchard, and Anderson, he is still too young to be without sound management. What's frightening is that Rhodes realizes this, too, and is licking his fat

(Continued on page 52)

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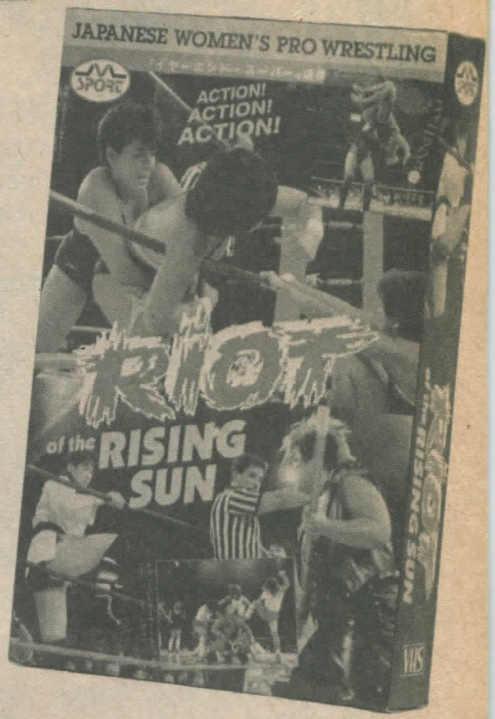

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- "Jaguar" Rimi Yokota vs. Tarantula
- "Crush Girl" Lioness Asuka vs. "Crush Girl" Chigusa Nagayo

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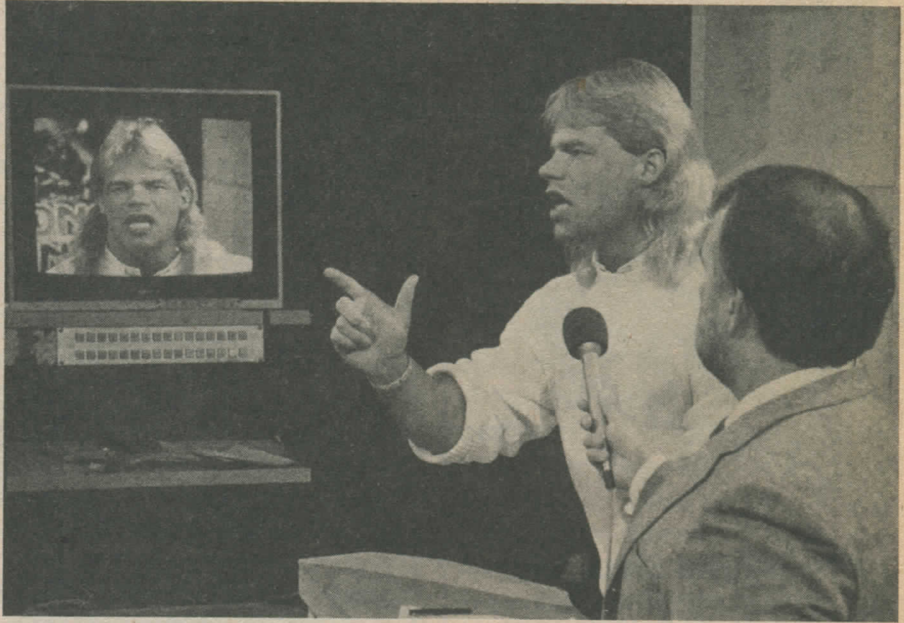
ON ASSIGNMENT

BY LIZ HUNTER

WHILE PREVIEWING EDDIE Ellner's "Insider" column this month, I was not surprised to find him broiling over the potential teaming of Lex Luger and Dusty Rhodes. Since Luger's defection from The Four Horsemen, the NWA has been swamped with rumors alleging the two former enemies may team up.



The two sides of Lex Luger became apparent when he turned against The Four Horsemen, the group that helped catapult him to superstardom. Liz Hunter believes this would be the perfect time for Luger to take Dusty Rhodes on as his manager.

Thus far both camps deny any association. "I respect Lex Luger and am very happy to see him leave that band of no good scum," Dusty told me. "But I don't see us getting together. He has his thing to do and I got mine. I think Lex needs some time to figure his head out."

Luger would not comment on the situation, but a spokesman explained that "Mr. Luger will hereafter handle his own affairs."

Despite what they're saying, don't be surprised if these two superstars wind up on the same side of the ring. Dusty has spent much of his career aiding young grapplers, and may have betrayed his true intentions by adding, later in our conversation, "Luger would do well to have someone who cared for him, not some rip-off artist, take control of his career."

And, not long ago, Luger was caught saying, "I'm sick and tired of all these people trying to rip me off. Why can't I find the right manager?"

Luger's lament would be answered if he allowed Dusty control of his career. Rhodes has been yearning to make the transition from wrestler to manager for some time. Despite his recent success in the ring, Dusty now realizes that time is about to call its marker. A stable of friends including Lex Luger, Barry Windham, Nikita Koloff, The Road Warriors, and Magnum T.A. (as co-strategist) would hasten Dusty's move into the manager's box.

Those who insist Luger would be too much for Rhodes are ignoring his past successes. He rehabilitated (however briefly) crazyman Kevin Sullivan, and later the American Hate Machine Nikita Koloff; Luger would be child's play.

"There is very little Dusty can't do," Magnum T.A. says. "Everyone likes to get on his case. They call him fat and over-the-hill, then he goes out and whips Luger for the U.S. title. He's accused of tampering with wrestlers' careers only for the publicity, but he's a father figure to more wrestlers than you'd ever believe."

It's time for Big Daddy Dusty to adopt one more. Under his tutelage, Luger, the self-proclaimed "Complete Package," would truly be complete. Imagine Luger, Koloff, and the Warriors together! Their *training sessions* could sell out arenas! Fans would cry "Four Who?" so fast it would take the bleach right out of Ric Flair's hairdo. Hulk Hogan and Randy Savage notwithstanding, they would, in short order, become the dominant force in professional wrestling.

***

Even while tragedies tugged and tore at their world, the Von Erich family never lost heart. This past Christmas Day, Kerry Von

(Continued on page 53)

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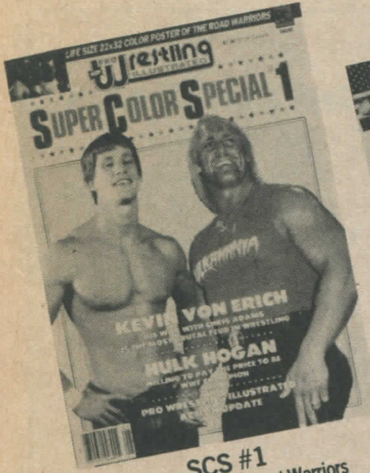
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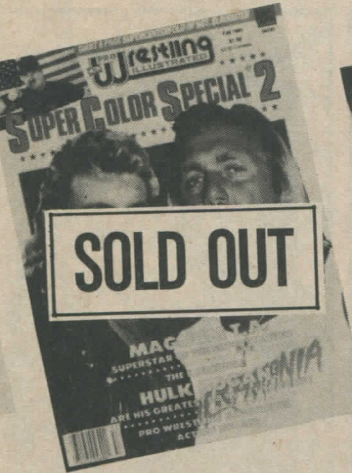
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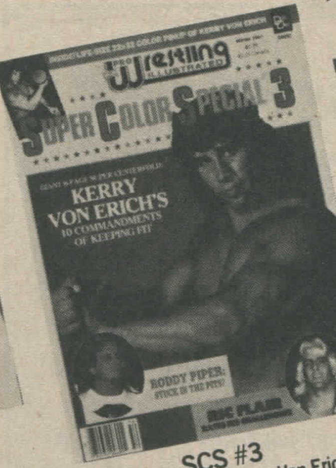
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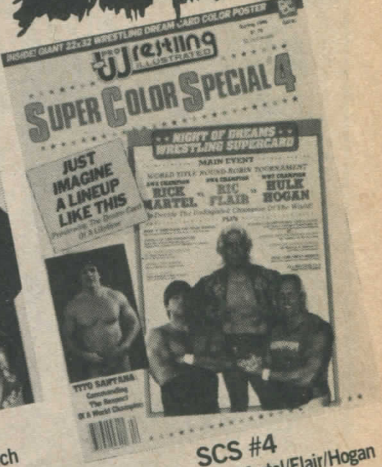
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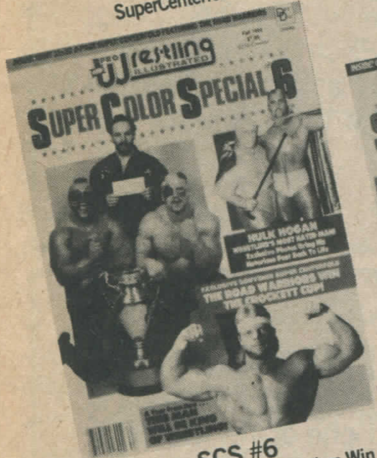
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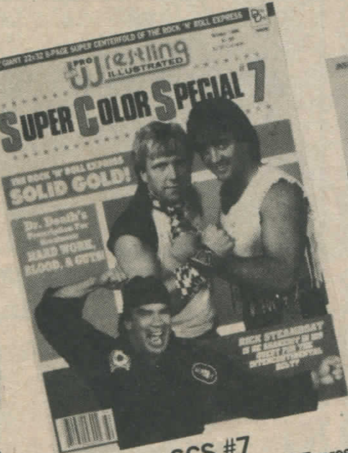
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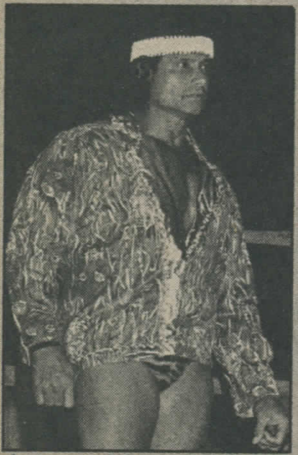
WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Do you have a favorite wrestler who has left your area? Are you wondering where he is today? Then this special column is just for you. Each month we will update the whereabouts of four current or former wrestlers

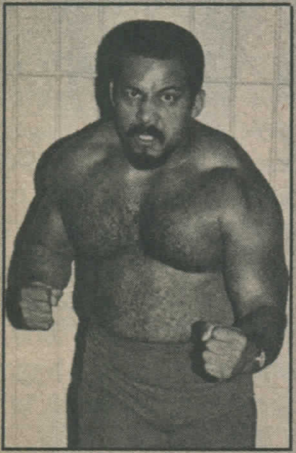


JIMMY SNUKA

"The Superfly" is currently in Australia and is scheduled for an upcoming tour of the Hawaiian Islands. Upon his return to the United States in early February, Snuka will begin wrestling for International Championship Wrestling in New Jersey, Massachusetts, and Florida. The ICW is also trying to sign Col. DeBeers to rekindle the vicious DeBeers-Snuka feud that took place last year in the AWA. Snuka was injured by DeBeers several times in that war.

THE FANTASTICS

Bobby Fulton and Tommy Rogers, former UWF and World Class tag team champions, wrestled for several independent promotions during the latter part of 1987 before announcing in December that they would return to the World Class area. Even though their friends Kerry and Kevin Von Erich currently hold the WCCW tag belts, The Fantastics admit they would like to wrestle the Von Erichs for the title.



JOHNNY RODZ

The "unpredictable" Johnny Rodz, who has wrestled such former WWF World champions as Bruno Sammartino, Pedro Morales, Bob Backlund, and present champion Hulk Hogan, wrestles for independent promotions on the East Coast. Rodz has also opened the Unpredictable Wrestling School in Queens, New York. "Hogan should be happy I'm not after the WWF belt," said Rodz, "because I'd beat him easily."

LUIS MARTINEZ

The fiery Mexican is one of the sport's greatest names ever in the Midwest. He was a nationally prominent star when he wrestled for the International Wrestling Association in the mid-'70s, and is now semiretired. Martinez lives in Toledo, Ohio, where he owns and operates a gym. Although he's in his late 50s, Martinez still wrestles occasionally to keep in shape. "Wrestling is something that just stays in your blood forever."

INSIDE WRESTLING

141

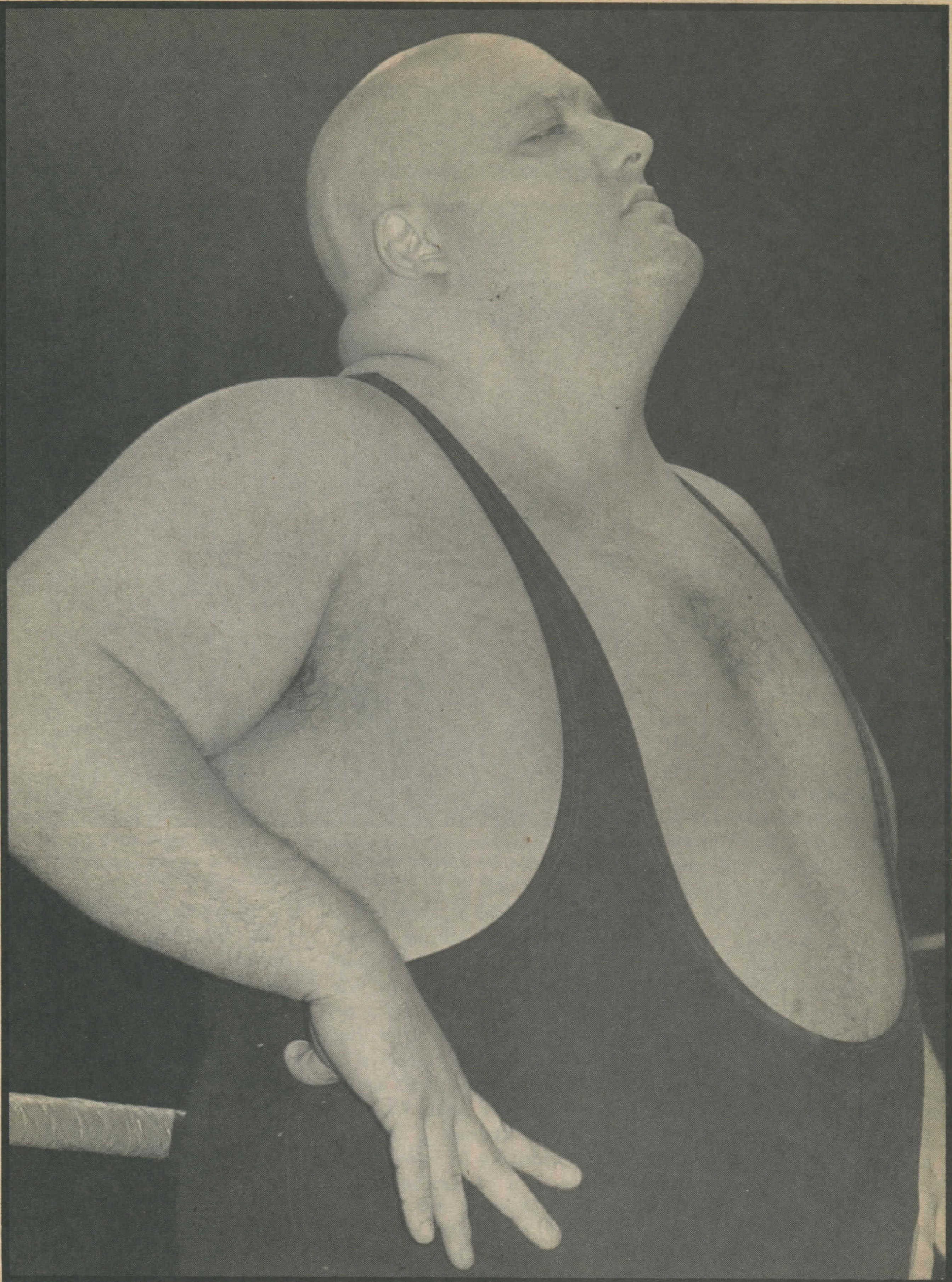
CAPSULE PROFILE

KING KONG BUNDY

With a look of absolute disgust, King Kong Bundy grabs two hands full of Rick Martel's hair. Bundy has a well-deserved reputation for being one of the most arrogant and nasty men in the sport, but he can usually back his words up in the ring.

SIZE, POWER, AND meanness: those are the words that come to mind when one thinks of King Kong Bundy *("The greatest big man in the sport")* ... Known for his "big splash"—with 457 pounds behind it—and for requesting a five-count before making the pin *("More decisive than a mere three-count")* ... The Atlantic City native was discovered by Gary Hart while working as a bar bouncer *("Hart was impressed immediately")* ... Early in his career, Bundy instituted his $15,000 bodyslam challenge, which was open to fans and wrestlers alike *("Toughest way to make 15 thou ever devised")* ... Insistence on five-count cost him the North American title in a match against Junkyard Dog *("What a fluke that was")* ... Joined Paul Ellering's Legion of Doom in 1984, but broke with them after Ellering made some disparaging remarks about him *("The Legion was doomed")* ... Feuded with The Road Warriors for months *("Hawk and Animal are two overrated clowns")* ... In May 1984, Bundy and Masked Superstar beat the Warriors for the National tag team title ... Moved to the Mid-Southern area where he was managed by Jimmy Hart *("A good guy and a good manager")* ... Lost to Rick Rude in a loser-leave-town match and went to the AWA *("Needed a change of pace anyway")* ... As "Boom Boom" Bundy, he teamed with Jerry Blackwell and resumed his feud with the Warriors *("Blackwell could've been a better partner")* ... With Jimmy Hart once again as his manager, entered the WWF in the summer of 1985 and began feuding with Andre the Giant *("There's only one giant in wrestling")* ... Hart traded him to Bobby Heenan *("Heenan is a real genius of this sport")* ... During a match between Andre and John Studd in Toronto, Bundy ran in and injured Andre with three big splashes *("That was back when Andre was confused and didn't know which side was right")* ... On February 15, 1986, Bundy interfered in a match between Magnificent Muraco and WWF champion Hulk Hogan *("Smashed Hogan's ribs good")* ... That confrontation led to a WrestleMania II cage match, which Hogan won *("He was lucky that night")* ... In one of the most disgusting acts in wrestling history, Bundy slammed the midget Little Beaver in a six-man mixed tag match at WrestleMania III *("Don't feel sorry for the little jerk, he deserved it")* ... As one of the main members of the Heenan family, Bundy has consistently received title shots at Hogan *("Bundymania will reign supreme")* ... Has also feuded with Bam Bam Bigelow *("That tattooed geek may think he's great, but he's not big enough to meet the challenge")* □

CAPSULE PROFILE PINUP



KING KONG BUNDY

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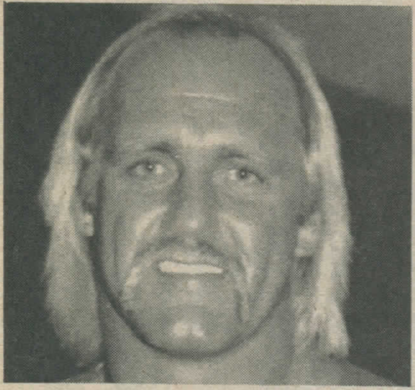
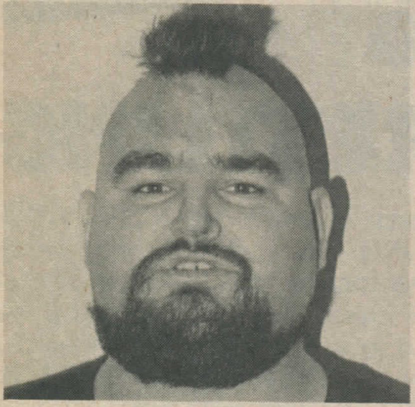
By Elyse Zois



HULK HOGAN
vs.
ONE MAN GANG

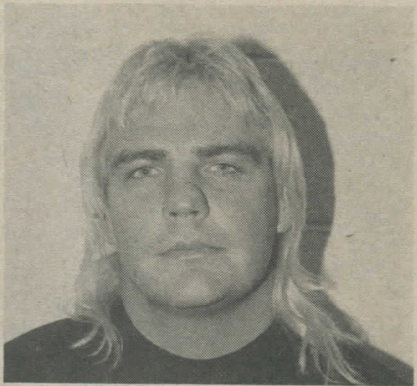


Hogan attacked OMG as soon as he entered the steel cage, and then tried to climb over the top. Gang pulled him down and choked Hogan with Hulk's headband, then tied him to the ropes and tried to escape. Hogan got free and pulled OMG back. Both men were bloody after battering each other against the sides of the cage. Hogan scooped up Gang, slammed him, and delivered a legdrop. Slick tried to help his man out, but Hogan get rid of him and climbed over the top of the cage to gain the win.

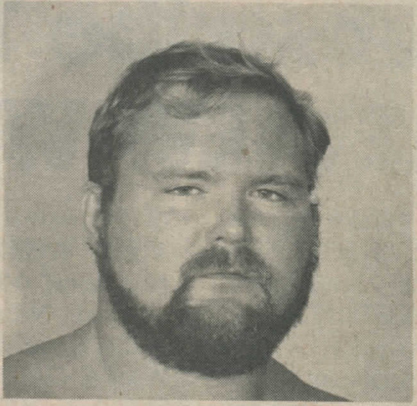
OTHER BOUTS: The British Bulldogs beat The Bolsheviks . . . Jake Roberts pinned Mr. Fuji . . . Magnificent Muraco beat Butch Reed by countout . . . Hacksaw Duggan pinned Harley Race . . . Ted DiBiase pinned Koko B. Ware.

ROANOKE, VA

By David Frost



BARRY WINDHAM
vs.
ARN ANDERSON

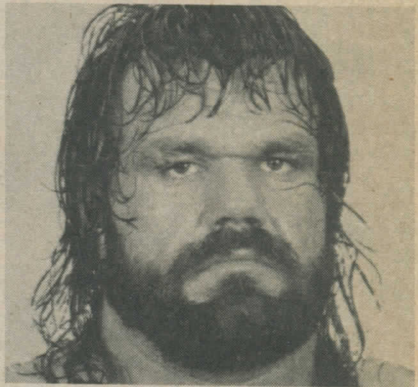


Anderson attacked Windham before the bell rang and maintained his advantage all the way until he made what would be a critical mistake by throwing Windham out of the ring. Standing on the arena floor, Windham pulled Anderson's feet out from under him. He then climbed to the ring apron, used the ropes to shoulderblock Anderson, and executed a sunset flip for the pin.

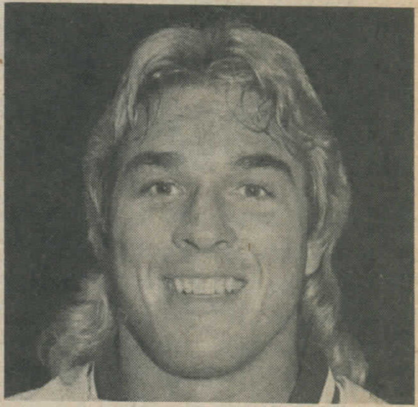
OTHER BOUTS: Ricky Santana defeated Rocky King . . . Mike Rotundo beat Thunderfoot I . . . John Savage beat Gladiator I . . . Rick Steiner defeated Kendall Windham . . . Kevin Sullivan defeated Eddie Gilbert . . . In a six-man tag team match, Jimmy Valiant, Bugsy McGraw, & Mighty Wilbur defeated Ivan Koloff, The Warlord, & Konga the Barbarian.

BALTIMORE, MD

By Rick Heiger



STEVE WILLIAMS
vs.
TERRY TAYLOR



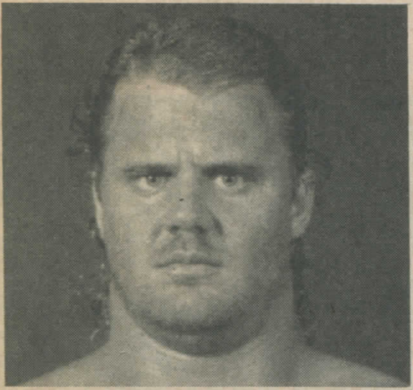
Williams and Taylor, both fine scientific wrestlers, spent much of the match punching and raking each other's eyes. "Dr. Death" press-slammed Taylor, then took him outside the ring to slam him into the ringside railing. Taylor then threw Williams into the railing and ringposts several times. Williams was infuriated when he suffered a cut above the eye. He entered the ring, delivered a powerslam and several football tackles, threw Taylor into the turnbuckle, and rolled him up for the pin.

OTHER BOUTS: Road Warrior Hawk won a 25-man Bunkhouse Stampede for $50,000 . . . Ric Flair beat Michael Hayes by disqualification . . . Nikita Koloff defeated Eddie Gilbert . . . Sting and Konga the Barbarian wrestled to a draw.

WRESTLING CAPITALS

MEMPHIS, TN

By Chuck Morris



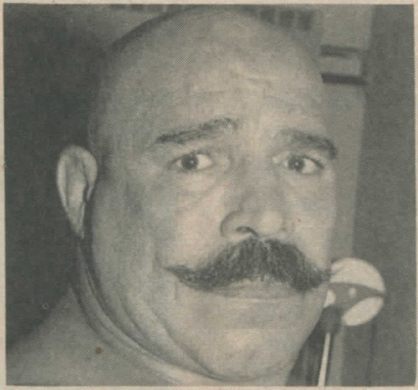
CURT HENNIG
vs.
JERRY LAWLER

Hennig decked Lawler with a right hand before this non-title match began and continued his assault with a powerful backdrop. Lawler rallied back and sent Hennig flying with a hard right fist. Hennig waistlocked Lawler and pushed him face-first into the referee, then dropped him groin-first over the top rope. Hennig pinned Lawler, but the ref was still unconscious. Hennig revived the ref before Lawler recovered, but Lawler executed a fistdrop and scored the pin

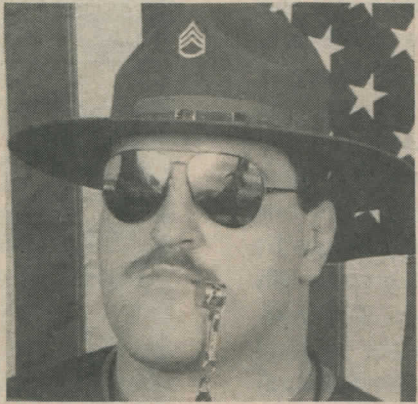
OTHER BOUTS: The Midnight Rockers beat The Nasty Boys . . . Jeff Jarrett defeated Manny Fernandez . . . Jimmy Jack Funk defeated Billy Travis . . . Bill Dundee defeated Teijho Khan . . . Bobby Jaggers & Hector Guerrero beat The Blue Denim Bruise Brothers.

WALTHAM, MA

By Penny Mitchell



THE IRON SHEIK
vs.
SGT. SLAUGHTER



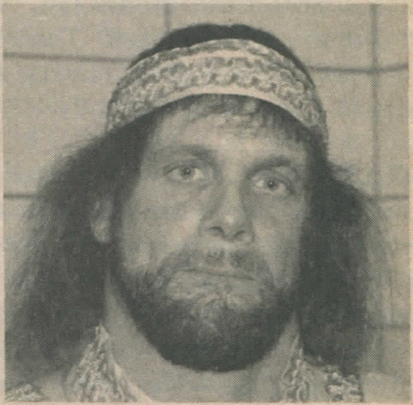
The two archrivals continued their long war with a devastating battle of forearm smashes, punches, kicks, and an array of wrestling maneuvers. The devious Sheik had a foreign object hidden in his trunks and used it to unleash an all-out illegal attack on Slaughter. The dazed Sarge swung wildly, but accidentally struck referee Paul Richard and knocked him unconscious. When Richard regained consciousness, he disqualified Slaughter. But guest referee Killer Kowalski ran into the ring, told Richard what happened, and disqualified the Sheik.

OTHER BOUTS: Superstar Richard Byrne defeated Mongo Clean . . . Johnny Rodz defeated Alex the Great . . . Jamie West defeated Black Venus.

NEW YORK, NY

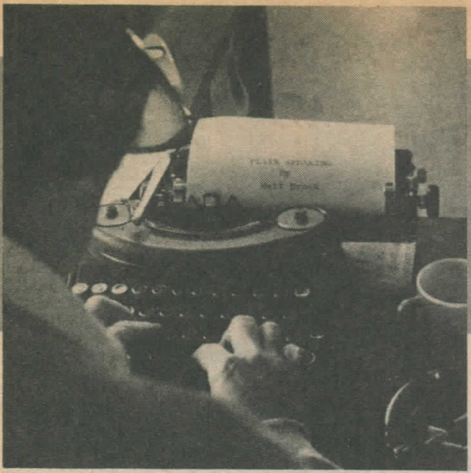
By Roy Johnson

THE HONKY TONK MAN
vs.
RANDY SAVAGE



Peggy Sue came to the ring with The Honky Tonk Man and choked Elizabeth at ringside. Meanwhile, the referee was knocked out in a collision. Savage turned his back on Honky Tonk to go after Peggy Sue, but Honky Tonk hit him with the Intercontinental belt and Savage fell to the arena floor. Honky Tonk woke up the referee and told him to give Savage the 10-count, but the ref disqualified Honky Tonk for using the belt.

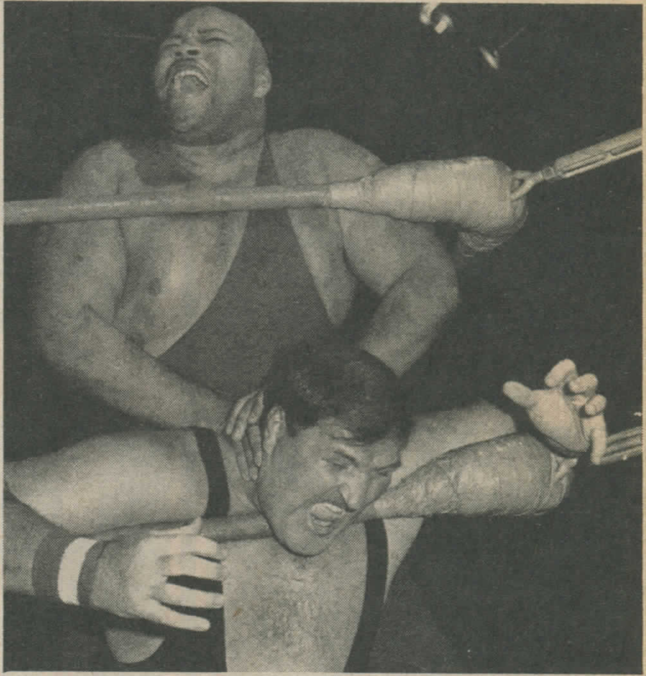
OTHER BOUTS: Sherri Martel defeated Rockin' Robin . . . Hacksaw Duggan beat Sika . . . Greg Valentine defeated Brutus Beefcake . . . The Islanders beat The Killer Bees . . . Dino Bravo defeated Koko B. Ware . . . Mike Sharpe beat S.D. Jones . . . Rick Steamboat and Rick Rude battled to a draw.



Matt Brock's PLAIN SPEAKING

TORONTO, ONTARIO: What in the world am I doing here? After a while, the grind—the same promotions, the same wrestlers, essentially the same shows night after night, only the city is different—gets to be too much. I just saw Ted DiBiase beat Hulk Hogan by countout. Randy Savage and The British Bulldogs beat The Honky Tonk Man and The Hart Foundation. Significant matches, I suppose, but I don't care. There has to be another side to wrestling besides Vince McMahon and Jim Crockett. Wrestling isn't just big cards in big arenas. I need a change. They say if the big promotions kill off the independent promotions, wrestling will die. I'd like to see for myself. There's an NWF card tomorrow in Hollywood, Florida, and I'm catching the next plane to be there.

HOLLYWOOD, FL: As long as there's a flag to defend, real Americans can rest assured that one great American named Sgt. Slaughter will always be at its side, fighting to the death to protect this country from communism, terrorism, and all subversive threats. The Sarge might be out of the national spotlight these days—his WWF feud with The Iron Sheik has slipped into history—but he's still taking on any foreign scoundrel that gets in his way. I told my editors that I wanted to come down here to check out the National Wrestling Federation, an independent promotion based in Camden, New Jersey. But the real reason I'm here is to see Sgt. Slaughter, one of my all-time favorites, defend his NWF Americas title against Sheik Al-Shaad. As it turned out, Al-Shaad never made it to the arena because of travel difficulties. Fortunately, we got to see the Sarge wrestle; unfortunately, it was against some other Arab scum named Sheik Fuquan. Slaughter had some trouble with Fuquan, mostly because he was prepared to wrestle Shaad, but after a while Sarge realized that all Middle Eastern trash wrestles the same way and pinned Fuquan to keep his title where it belongs, right here in the good ol' U.S. of A. Afterward, I went out for a few drinks and a couple of pablum-puking liberals sitting next to me were saying that Slaughter's militaristic attitude and closed-mindedness about other nationalities sets a bad example for young children. So I picked up my drink, poured it on their shoes, and walked out the door. The Sarge probably would've done worse.


SHEIK AL-SHAAD VS. SGT. SLAUGHTER

TOLEDO, OH: On the shore of Lake Erie, 150 miles south of Detroit, lies Toledo, a decent-sized city that doesn't see the WWF more than three or four times a year. But they do have the World Wrestling Association, which runs shows the first Sunday of every month at the Lucas County Recreation Center. They have a young guy up here

Harder than nails, veteran wrestling reporter Matt Brock has logged more miles covering wrestling than any other journalist. Every month Matt will travel to the sport's hotbeds, reporting everything he sees without fear or favor

named Scott Rexsteiner who's the younger brother of Rick Steiner. Rexsteiner's still a little green, but he's a big muscleman and he knows how to wrestle, considering his youth. He looks good, but December 6 wasn't an especially good night for him. Rexsteiner and Dr. Jerry Graham, the crowd favorites, lost the WWA tag belts to Chris Carter and Bulldog Don Kent, a veteran who's still pretty sharp after all these years. Carter and Kent will get to put their belts on the line again on January 3 against Calypso Jim and Denny Kass, but the big news about that show concerns former WWF World champion The Iron Sheik, who'll wrestle The Great Wojo for the WWA heavyweight title. Wojo, another strongman with a solid amateur background, offered a $100,000 challenge to any former or current champion from any other federation who wants to wrestle him. Sheik, who's been wrestling all over the place these days, was the first to accept the challenge. So, on January 3, they'll do business. The crowd could be up around 3,000 for that show, which is considered pretty good for an independent promotion. The fans here seem to be into the wrestling, and the WWA has a solid foundation: they have a weekly one-hour show on Channel 36 in Toledo. Not bad. I might be back here on January 3.

THE GREAT WOJO

HUNTINGTON, WV: My final stop; this is getting good. International Championship Wrestling operates out of New Jersey, but they run cards throughout the East Coast, including Massachusetts, Maine, Florida, Virginia, and also in Oklahoma. They're seen on 30 stations throughout the country and have saturated the Boston market. "We're not that small anymore," says promoter Mario Savoldi. "We've been keeping it quiet, but our bad days are over. We're a growing promotion. I wouldn't call us minor." Savoldi has a point. The ICW's talent roster includes Tony Atlas, The Iron Sheik (seems every promotion has a piece of him), Jimmy Snuka (just signed), The Moondogs, Joe Savoldi (Mario's brother), and a 6'11", 550-pound monster from Canada named Gustav the Giant. Get this: Gustav is accompanied by his manager, the midget Sky Low Low, who pulls him into the ring by a rope while the song "Alley Oop" blares over the sound system. The fans go nuts over Gustav, and they went crazy tonight when he won the main event: a 15-man battle royal, with Atlas, Sheik, The Moondogs, Savoldi, Hillbilly Mike, The Invaders, and Blackjack Mulligan. Gustav tossed The Invaders over the top rope to win it. I was impressed. Anyway, there are big things ahead for the ICW. They're on the verge of signing Col. DeBeers, which means the Snuka-DeBeers feud could resume. A few months ago, Bob Backlund had it out with The Iron Sheik on TV, and there's a possibility we might see a rematch of their controversial 1983 title bout. They've also got something coming up called The Thunderdome, in which 15 men will go into the ring with anything they want and only one will survive. The way it looks, we're going to be seeing a lot more of this group in 1988. That doesn't sound like such a bad prospect. ☐

Brotherly Love:

KEVIN VON ERICH GIVES KERRY HIS SHOT AT GLORY

THROUGHOUT THE AUTUMN of 1987, Kevin and Kerry Von Erich were each fighting to recapture their top spots in the World Class area. Kevin, afflicted with shoulder and neck injuries, was struggling to regain the World Class heavyweight title he had forfeited to Al Perez last October; Kerry was battling to complete an arduous comeback from injuries suffered in a near-fatal motorcycle crash in the spring of 1986.

The two brothers had already gone a long way toward completing their comebacks. When Kerry had recovered enough from his accident to appear at ringside for his brother, Kevin began wrestling with his old fire once again. Kerry's presence (along with that of Fritz Von Erich) helped neutralize the chronic interference of Perez's manager Gary Hart, and in turn prepared him for his own comeback—which was successful beyond even his own expectations. Just days before Thanksgiving, the brothers took the World Class tag team title from Frank Lancaster and Brian Adias. In the wake of that title victory, the Von Erichs had momentum on their side; it seemed just a matter of time before Perez would fall to Kevin.

Fritz Von Erich is held back by Iceman Parsons while Buddy Roberts and The Angel of Death prepare to handcuff him to the ropes. Terry Gordy also joined in the attack, which occurred prior to Kevin Von Erich's match against World Class champion Al Perez on Christmas Day.

All signs pointed to that happening in short order. It was announced that Kevin was to meet Perez in a Christmas Day steel cage match, with Fritz Von Erich and Gary Hart to be handcuffed together at ringside. But Kevin took the wrestling world by surprise some days later when he announced that he would step aside and give Kerry his title shot.

"I had no problem stepping aside for Kerry," Kevin stated in a telephone interview. "I feel he really deserved it, because he's worked so hard for so long to get back into the ring. Kerry is my brother and I love him. I couldn't think of a better Christmas present for him."

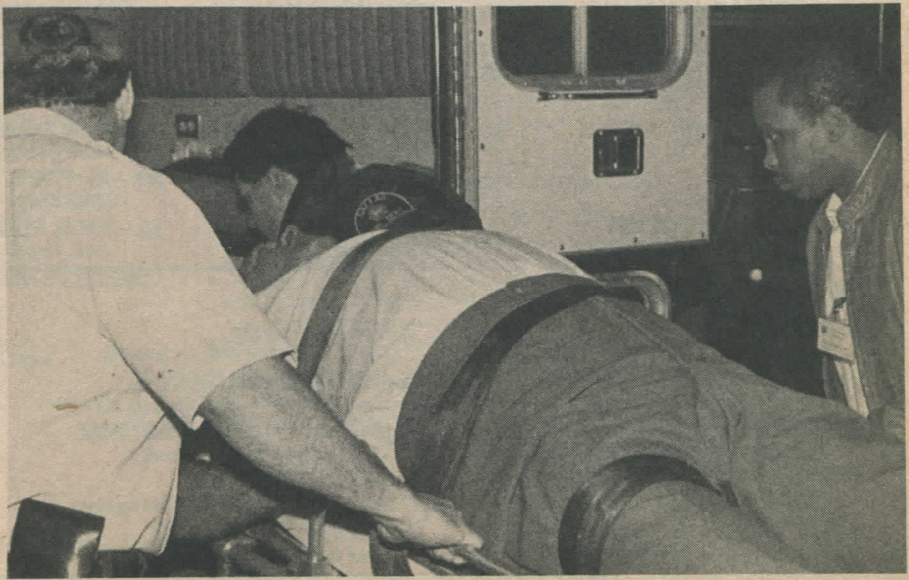
Kevin drew silent for a moment before assuring his caller that he was still on the phone. When Kevin stops talking, something is very wrong. "What happened that night," he said angrily, "was the most hideous thing I've ever witnessed. And on Christmas, of all days. Horrible, horrible!"

What Kevin was referring to was the vicious sneak-attack that the "New Freebirds" (Terry Gordy, Buddy Roberts, and "Blackbird" King Parsons) made on Fritz Von Erich before the match.

(Continued on page 54)

On Christmas in Dallas, Kerry Von Erich was ready to cap his miraculous comeback by challenging Al Perez for the World Class heavyweight title—a match that his brother Kevin gave him as a gift. But the most shameful sneak-attack in the history of Texas wrestling spoiled what could have been a glorious night

Back in happier times, Kevin Von Erich celebrates another World Class title defense with brother Kerry and father Fritz (above). Months later, Kerry and Kevin came to the aid of Fritz (below left) after he was attacked by The New Freebirds. Fritz was taken to the hospital by ambulance (below right).



INSIDE WRESTLING'S
OFFICIAL RATINGS

TOP 15

1—HULK HOGAN
302, Venice Beach, CA

2—RIC FLAIR
243, Minneapolis, MN

3—NIKITA KOLOFF
275, Moscow, Russia

4—RANDY SAVAGE
245, Sarasota, FL

5—DUSTY RHODES
302, Austin, TX

6—STEVE WILLIAMS
265, Norman, OK

7—BARRY WINDHAM
236, Sweetwater, TX

8—CURT HENNIG
235, Minneapolis, MN

9—LEX LUGER
268, Chicago, IL

10—AL PEREZ
238, Tampa, FL

11—JERRY LAWLER
234, Memphis, TN

12—KERRY VON ERICH
260, Denton, TX

13—BAM BAM BIGELOW
268, Mt. Laurel, NJ

14—STING
270, parts unknown

15—WENDELL COOLEY
220, Milton, FL

NWA

1—RIC FLAIR
243, Minneapolis, MN

2—DUSTY RHODES
302, Austin, TX

3—STEVE WILLIAMS
265, Norman, OK

4—LEX LUGER
268, Chicago, IL

5—NIKITA KOLOFF
275, Moscow, Russia

6—BARRY WINDHAM
236, Sweetwater, TX

7—MICHAEL HAYES
255, Marietta, GA

8—STING
270, parts unknown

9—RONNIE GARVIN
231, Montreal, Quebec

10—TULLY BLANCHARD
235, San Antonio, TX

11—LARRY ZBYSZKO
248, Pittsburgh, PA

12—BLACK BART
261, Pampa, TX

13—RICK STEINER
248, Detroit, MI

14—MIKE ROTUNDO
245, Syracuse, NY

15—JIM GARVIN
235, Tampa, FL

AWA

1—CURT HENNIG
235, Minneapolis, MN

2—GREG GAGNE
220, Robbinsdale, MN

3—WAHOO McDANIEL
260, Midland, TX

4—JERRY LAWLER
234, Memphis, TN

5—KEVIN KELLY
271, Oakland, CA

6—ADRIAN ADONIS
312, New York, NY

7—NICK KINISKI
220, Edmonton, Alberta

8—JEFF JARRETT
200, Hendersonville, TN

9—JERRY BLACKWELL
474, Stone Mountain, GA

10—MITCH SNOW
220, Mooresville, NC

11—J.T. SOUTHERN
254, Asbury Park, NJ

12—D.J. PETERSEN
245, St. Joseph, MO

13—ALAN WEST
251, Zuma Beach, CA

14—RANDY ROSE
240, Nashville, TN

15—DENNIS CONDREY
245, Nashville, TN

WWF

1—HULK HOGAN
302, Venice Beach, CA

2—THE HONKY TONK MAN
255, Memphis, TN

3—RANDY SAVAGE
245, Sarasota, FL

4—TED DiBIASE
247, Omaha, NE

5—BAM BAM BIGELOW
368, Mt. Laurel, NJ

6—RICK STEAMBOAT
238, Honolulu, HI

7—ONE MAN GANG
468, Chicago, IL

8—ANDRE THE GIANT
497, Grenoble, France

9—RICK RUDE
246, Robbinsdale, MN

10—JAKE ROBERTS
246, Stone Mountain, GA

11—HACKSAW DUGGAN
280, Glens Falls, NY

12—BRUTUS BEEFCAKE
273, San Francisco, CA

13—GREG VALENTINE
243, Seattle, WA

14—PAUL ORNDORFF
253, Brandon, FL

15—ULTIMATE WARRIOR
280, Queens, NY

MOST POPULAR

1—HULK HOGAN
302, Venice Beach, CA

2—RANDY SAVAGE
245, Sarasota, FL

3—DUSTY RHODES
302, Austin, TX

4—LEX LUGER
268, Chicago, IL

5—NIKITA KOLOFF
275, Moscow, Russia

6—KERRY VON ERICH
260, Denton, TX

7—BARRY WINDHAM
236, Sweetwater, TX

8—JAKE ROBERTS
246, Stone Mountain, GA

9—STING
270, parts unknown

10—JERRY LAWLER
234, Memphis, TN

11—CHRIS ADAMS
228, Stratford, England

12—BAM BAM BIGELOW
368, Mt. Laurel, NJ

13—RICK STEAMBOAT
238, Honolulu, HI

14—RONNIE GARVIN
231, Montreal, Quebec

15—OWEN HART
223, Calgary, Alberta

MOST HATED

1—TED DiBIASE
247, Omaha, NE

2—RIC FLAIR
243, Minneapolis

3—ANDRE THE GIANT
497, Grenoble, France

4—TULLY BLANCHARD
235, San Antonio, TX

5—THE HONKY TONK MAN
255, Memphis, TN

6—LARRY ZBYSZKO
248, Pittsburgh, PA

7—TERRY TAYLOR
225, Vero Beach, FL

8—CURT HENNIG
235, Minneapolis, MN

9—ONE MAN GANG
468, Chicago, IL

10—AL PEREZ
238, Tampa, FL

11—RICK RUDE
246, Robbinsdale, MN

12—BRIAN ADIAS
238, Denton, TX

13—ADRIAN ADONIS
312, New York, NY

14—TERRY GORDY
289, Chattanooga, TN

15—KEVIN KELLY
271, Oakland, CA

TAG TEAMS

1—THE ROAD WARRIORS
No. 1 contenders: NWA World tag team title

2—RICK MARTEL & TITO SANTANA
WWF World tag team champions

3—TULLY BLANCHARD & ARN ANDERSON
NWA World tag team champions

4—BOBBY EATON & STAN LANE
U.S. tag team champions

5—BRETT HART & JIM NEIDHART
No. 1 contenders: WWF tag team title

6—THE ISLANDERS
No. 3 contenders: WWF tag team title

7—THE BRITISH BULLDOGS
No. 2 contenders: WWF World tag team title

8—DENNIS CONDREY & RANDY ROSE
AWA World tag team champions

9—THE SHEEPHERDERS
No. 3 contenders to NWA World tag team title

10—THE MIDNIGHT ROCKERS
CWA tag team champions

11—KERRY & KEVIN VON ERICH
World Class tag team champions

12—THE ROCK 'N' ROLL EXPRESS
No. 2 contenders: NWA World tag team title

13—THE WARLORD & KONGA THE BARBARIAN
No. 4 contenders: NWA World tag team title

14—ROBERT FULLER & JIMMY GOLDEN
Southeast Continental tag team champions

15—BRUCE HART & BRIAN PILLMAN
Stampede International tag team champions

These ratings are compiled by the editors with the assistance of promoters, wrestlers, and reporters around the country, and are based on won-lost records for the past month, quality of opposition, and the inherent skill of each wrestler . . . "Most Popular" and "Most Hated" ratings are based on nationwide surveys of wrestling fans and on mail that comes to our offices . . . Championships marked with asterisks on the "Roll Call of Champions" indicate title changes that have taken place since our previous issue . . . The information under the championship listing indicates the date that champion won the title, who the former champion was, and where the match took place .

For period ended January 1, 1988

ROLL CALL OF CHAMPIONS

* **ACCW TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: THE MERCENARIES**
(December 12, 1987; from Peter Maivia Jr. & Prof. Tanaka; Hawaiian Gardens, CA)

ALABAMA CHAMPION: TOM PRITCHARD
(October 26, 1987; from Tony Anthony; Birmingham, AL)

ALL-JAPAN ASIAN TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: TAKASHI ISHIKAWA & MIGHTY INOUE
(July 30, 1987; tournament final over Isamu Teranishi & Masanobu Kurusu; Tokyo, Japan)

ALL-JAPAN INTERNATIONAL CHAMPION: JUMBO TSURUTA
(October 21, 1986; from Stan Hansen; Tokyo)

ALL-JAPAN INTERNATIONAL TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: THE ROAD WARRIORS
(March 12, 1987; from Jumbo Tsuruta & Genichiro Tenryu; Tokyo, Japan)

ALL-JAPAN JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: MASANOBU FUCHI
(January 3, 1987; from Kuniaki Kobayashi; Tokyo)

ALL-JAPAN UNITED NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP: GENICHIRO TENRYU
(April 26, 1986; tournament final over Ted DiBiase; Omiya, Japan)

ALL-PACIFIC WOMEN'S CHAMPION: CHIGUSA NAGYO
(April 27, 1987; from Leilani Kai; Osaka, Japan)

* **AWA TV CHAMPION: GREG GAGNE**
(December 27, 1987; tournament final over Adrian Adonis; Las Vegas, NV)

* **AWA WOMEN'S CHAMPION: MADUSA MICELI**
(December 27, 1987; tournament final over Candi Divine; Las Vegas, NV)

AWA WORLD CHAMPION: CURT HENNIG
(May 2, 1987; from Nick Bockwinkel; San Francisco, CA)

AWA WORLD TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: DENNIS CONDREY & RANDY ROSE
(October 30, 1987; from Jerry Lawler & Bill Dundee; Whitewater, WI)

BRITISH COMMONWEALTH CHAMPION: GAMA SINGH
(August 7, 1987; from Owen Hart; Calgary, Alberta)

* **CENTRAL STATES CHAMPION: D.J. PETERSON**
(December 25, 1987; from Bulldog Bob Brown; St. Joseph, MO)

CENTRAL STATES TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: RICK PATTERSON & MIKE STONE
(November 26, 1987; from Rick McCord & Prokchop Cash; Kansas City, KS)

* **CWA CHAMPION: JERRY LAWLER**
(December 7, 1987; rouund-robin tournament final over Jeff Jarrett & Manny Fernandez; Memphis, TN)

CWA TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: THE MIDNIGHT ROCKERS
(November 22, 1987; from The RPMS; Memphis, TN)

FLORIDA CHAMPION: MIKE ROTUNDO
(April 18, 1987; from Sir Oliver Humperdink; Lakeland, FL)

INTERNATIONAL WRESTLING GRAND PRIX CHAMPION: ANTONIO INOKI
(June 19, 1986; tournament final over Dick Murdoch; Tokyo, Japan)

IWGP INTERNATIONAL TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:
YOSHIAKI FUJIWARA & KAZUO YAMAZAKI
(September 1, 1987; from Akira Maeda & Nobuhiko Takada; Fukuoka, Japan)

IWGP JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: TITLE HELD UP
(most recently held by Kuniaki Kobayashi)

JAPANESE WOMEN'S CHAMPION: CHIGUSA NAGAYO
(October 20, 1987; from Yukari Omori; Tokyo, Japan)

JAPANESE WOMEN'S TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: BULL NAKANO & KANDOR SAITO
(October 20, 1987; from Kzue Nagahori & Umy Miogura; Tokyo, Japan)

NWA JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: NELSON ROYAL
(October 16, 1987; by NWA decision)

NWA SIX-MAN TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: THE ROAD WARRIORS & DUSTY RHODES
(May 17, 1986; from Ivan & Nikita Koloff and Baron Von Raschke; Baltimore)

NWA TV CHAMPION: NIKITA KOLOFF
(August 17, 1987; from Tully Blanchard; Fayetteville, NC)

NWA WORLD CHAMPION: RIC FLAIR
(November 26, 1987; from Ronnie Garvin; Chicago, IL)

NWA WORLD TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: TULLY BLANCHARD & ARN ANDERSON
(September 29, 1987; from The Rock 'n' Roll Express; Misenheimer, NC)

PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAMPION: THE GRAPPLER
(October 31, 1987; from Mike Miller; Portland, OR)

PACIFIC NORTHWEST TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: SCOTT PETERSON & STEVE DOLL
(November 7, 1987; from Joey Jackson & Super Ninja; Portland, OR)

PWF CHAMPION: STAN HANSEN
(April 24, 1987; tournament final over Hiroshi Wajima; Yokohama, Japan)

PWF TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: GENICHIRO TENRYU & ASHURA HARA
(September 3, 1987; from Stan Hansen & Austin Idol; Nagoya, Japan)

* **SOUTHEAST CHAMPION: LORD HUMONGOUS**
(December 25, 1987; from Dan Davis; Knoxville, TN)

SOUTHEAST CONTINENTAL CHAMPION: DUTCH MANTEL
(April 13, 1987; from Adrian Street; Birmingham, AL)

SOUTHEAST CONTINENTAL TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:
ROBERT FULLER & JIMMY GOLDEN
(May 25, 1987; from Jerry Stubbs & Tony Anthony; Birmingham, AL)

SOUTHEAST U.S. JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: LARRY HAMILTON
(September 7, 1987; from Scott Armstrong; Birmingham, AL)

STAMPEDE NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP: OWEN HART
(April 10, 1987; from Makhan Singh; Calgary, Alberta)

STAMPEDE INTERNATIONAL TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:
BRUCE HART & BRIAN PILLMAN
(November 13, 1987; from Makian Singh & Jerry Morrow; Calgary, Alberta)

TENNESSEE HEAVYWEIGHT TITLE: DOUG FURNAS
(July 17, 1987; tournament final over Tony Anthony; Knoxville, TN)

U.S. CHAMPION: DUSTY RHODES
(November 26, 1987; from Lex Luger; Greensboro, NC)

U.S. TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: THE MIDNIGHT EXPRESS
(May 16, 1987; tournament final over Barry Windham & Ronnie Garvin)

UWA HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: TITLE VACANT
(most recently held by Diamond Timothy Flowers)

UWA INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S CHAMPION: IRON MAIDEN
(October 13, 1987; from Delta Dawn; Cloverdale, British Columbia)

UWA JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: VERNE SIEBERT
(October 7, 1987; from The Frog; Cloverdale, British Columbia)

UWA TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: J.R. BUNDY & RICK DAVIS
(May 9, 1987; from Jonathan Sayers & Diamond Timothy Flowers; Vancouver, British Columbia)

UWF HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: STEVE WILLIAMS
(July 11, 1987; from Big Bubba Rogers; Oklahoma City)

* **WILD WEST TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: JOHN TATUM & JACK VICTORY**
(November 30, 1987; tournament final over Missing Link & Jeff Raitz; Ft. Worth, TX)

WORLD CLASS CHAMPION: AL PEREZ
(October 26, 1987; by World Class officials' decision)

* **WORLD CLASS JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: ERIC EMBRY**
(December 25, 1987; from Shaun Simpson; Dallas, TX)

* **WORLD CLASS SIX-MAN CHAMPIONS:**
KEVIN VON ERICH, STEVE SIMPSON, & CHRIS ADAMS
(December 25, 1987; tournament final over Terry Gordy, Buddy Roberts, & Iceman Parsons; Dallas, TX)

WORLD CLASS TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: KERRY & KEVIN VON ERICH
(November 25, 1987; from Brian Adias & Frank Lancaster; Shreveport, LA)

WORLD CLASS TV CHAMPION: TONY ATLAS
(May 22, 1987; reinstated by World Class officials)

WORLD CLASS TEXAS CHAMPION: MATT BORNE
(November 10, 1987; from Ted Arcidi; Midland, TX)

WORLD CLASS TEXAS TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: SKIP YOUNG & TONY ATLAS
(June 29, 1987; tournament final over Ted Arcidi & Texas Red; Ft. Worth, TX)

WORLD PACIFIC CHAMPION: SUPERFLY TUI
(April 11, 1987; from Super Machine I; Honolulu, HI)

WORLD PACIFIC TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: FARMER BOY IPO & LEROY BROWN
(August 9, 1986; from Mad Max & Super Max; Honolulu, HI)

WORLD WRESTLING ASSOCIATION HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION:
GREG WOJOKOWSKI
(May 3, 1987; from Scott Rexsteiner; Toledo, Ohio)

* **WORLD WRESTLING ASSOCIATION TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:**
CHRIS CARTER & DON KENT
(December 6, 1987; from Jerry Graham Jr. & Scott Rexsteiner; Toledo, Ohio)

WWC CARIBBEAN TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: SAMOANS SAMU & FATU
(November 7, 1987; tourney final over The Invaders; Guaynamo, Puerto Rico)

WWC JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: EL GRAN MENDOZA
(October 7, 1987; from Hurricane Castillo; Catayno, Puerto Rico)

WWC NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPION: TNT
(May 16, 1987; from Miguel Perez Jr.; Bayamon, Puerto Rico)

WWC PUERTO RICAN CHAMPION: KAREEM MUHAMMAD
(June 6, 1987; from Mighty Igor; Juaynabo, Puerto Rico)

WWC TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: MR. POGO & KENDO NAGASAKI
(October 17, 1987; from Chris & Mark Youngblood; Caugas, Puerto Rico)

WWC UNIVERSAL CHAMPION: CARLOS COLON
(September 20, 1987; from Hercules Ayala; Ponce, Puerto Rico)

WWC WOMEN'S CHAMPION: WENDI RICHTER
(July 28, 1987; from Monster Ripper; Trinidad)

WWF INTERCONTINENTAL CHAMPION: THE HONKY TONK MAN
(June 2, 1987; from Rick Steamboat; Buffalo, NY)

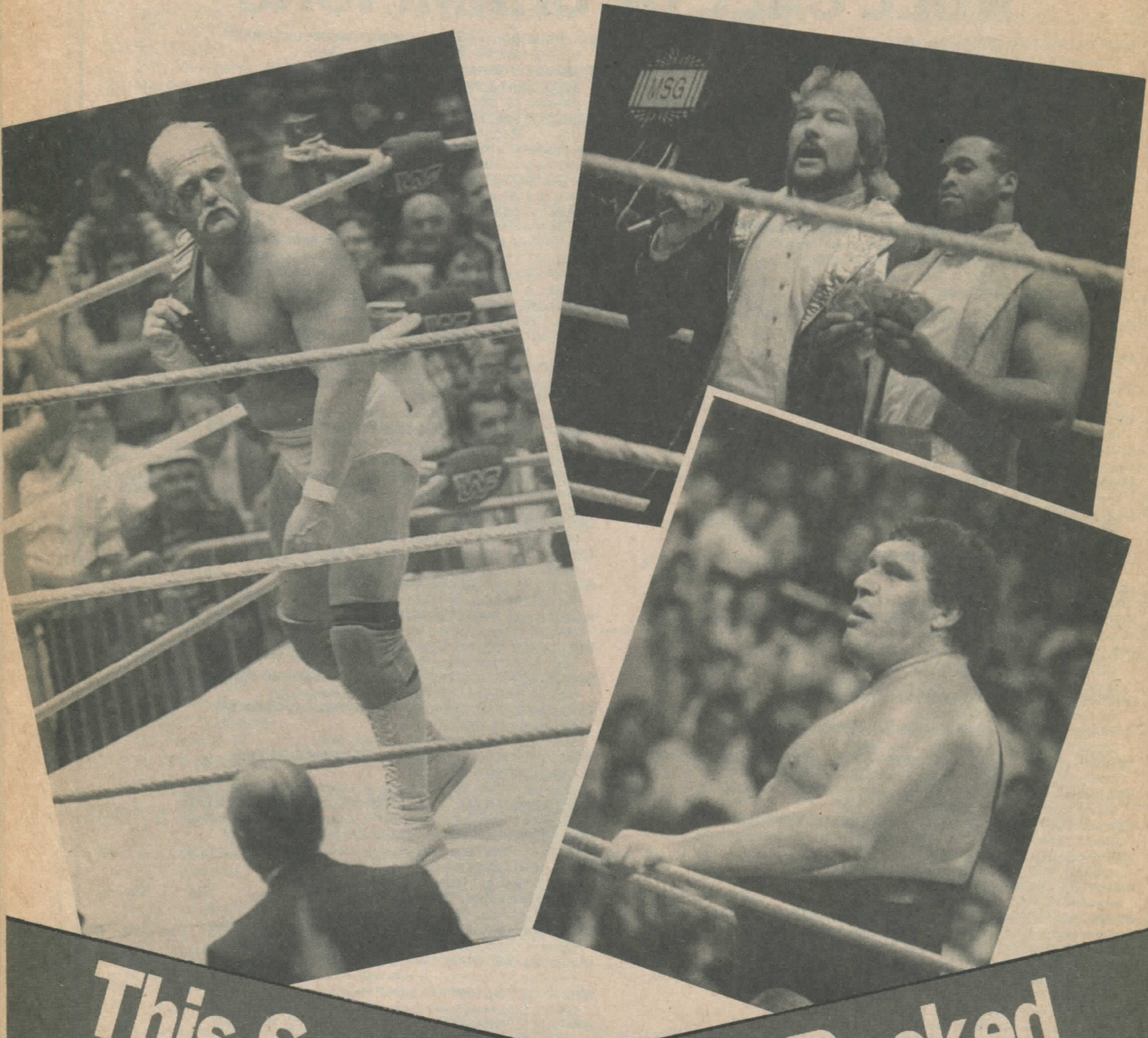
WWF WORLD CHAMPION: HULK HOGAN
(January 23, 1984; from The Iron Sheik; New York, NY)

WWF WORLD TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: RICK MARTEL & TITO SANTANA
(October 27, 1987; The Hart Foundation; Syracuse, NY)

WWF WORLD WOMEN'S CHAMPION: SHERRI MARTEL
(July 24, 1987; from The Fabulous Moolah; Houston, TX)

WWF WORLD WOMEN'S TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: LELANI KAI & JUDY MARTIN
(August 1985; from Desiree Petersen & Velvet McIntyre; Egypt)

THE HOGAN-ANDRE-DiBIASE CONNECTION:

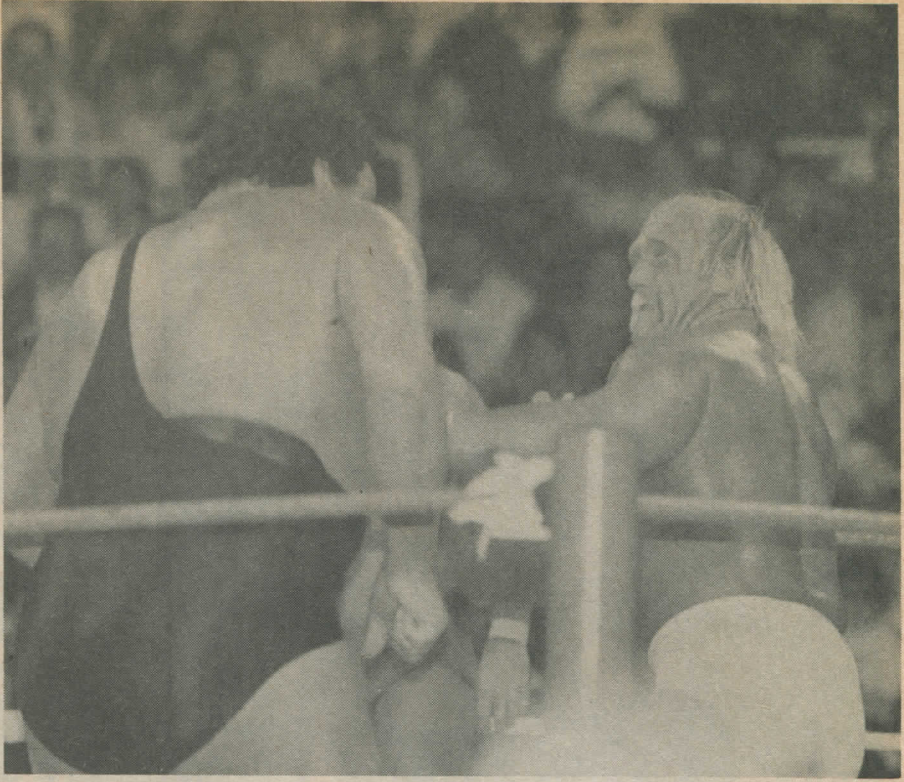


This Scandal Has Rocked Wrestling's Foundation!

FOR SALE: ONE WWF World championship belt, gold plated. Slightly used. Reply to H. Hogan, Venice Beach, California.

It could read that way—like a classified ad in your local newspaper—if the wrestling world were molded to Ted DiBiase's wishes. It would be a world in which titles were bought and sold like stocks, where a wrestler's bankroll would be a greater barometer of his success than his skill. It would be a sad world indeed.

Fortunately, we haven't gotten that far. Championships are won and lost where they ought to be: in the ring. There have been exceptions, the most famous being in 1983 when Larry Zbyszko bought the now-defunct National title from Killer Brooks after Brooks won the belt from Paul Orndorff. But that was an isolated incident centered around a regional title.



Ted DiBiase's deal with Andre the Giant is simple: If Andre wins the WWF World title, he will sell it to "The Million-Dollar Man." Simple, but frightening. DiBiase's deal could damage the sport of wrestling irreparably!

WWF World champion Hulk Hogan slugs it out with Andre the Giant (top), who, if he beats Hogan, has agreed to sell the title to Ted DiBiase (above, battling Hillbilly Jim). DiBiase's hunger for a world title may be satiated by his great wealth.

By contrast, DiBiase wants to purchase a *world* title.

Although swayed momentarily by DiBiase's seven-figure offer, Hulk Hogan ultimately rejected any notion of following through on the proposed deal. Indeed, there were few real worries that Hogan would accept DiBiase's offer. "Hulk is too dedicated to his fans and 'Hulkamaniacs' to sell out to a slime like DiBiase," said one WWF source. "It would never occur to him to give it all up, no matter how much money was offered to him. Hulk has plenty of money. Besides, he's a man of morals."

So if DiBiase can't buy the title from Hulk Hogan, he's willing to buy it from someone else.

As DiBiase reasoned: If you can't buy the champion, buy the number-one contender. But who exactly *is* that? King Kong Bundy? Hercules Hernandez? Kamala? One Man Gang? Andre the Giant? DiBiase actually thought of buying them *all,* but was

(Continued on page 56)

LEX LUGER

The Reason Flair's Fifth Reign Will Be His Shortest!

ALMOST IMMEDIATELY AFTER defeating Ronnie Garvin at Starrcade '87 on Thanksgiving Day, Ric Flair declared that his fifth NWA World title reign would never end. "I'm not gonna catch Race's record [of seven NWA World titles], because this time I'm not gonna lose the belt," Flair boasted.

Only six days later, something happened that made "The Nature Boy" reassess the situation. Lex Luger turned against The Four Horsemen and J.J. Dillon during the first Bunkhouse Stampede in Miami Beach, Florida, and declared war on his former teammates.

And that means you, Ric Flair!

"Flair wasn't in that match the night it all happened," said Luger, "but that doesn't mean I've forgotten him. J.J. Dillon might be the manager of the Horsemen, but Flair's the ringleader. They do whatever he says. If I can get rid of him, I can get rid of them all. Besides, I've always had it in for Flair."

Luger is referring to a series of matches against Flair back in 1986, when Lex was Southern champion in Florida. Luger pressed Flair to the limit on several occasions, and once, after winning the first fall in a best-of-three-falls match, was attacked by 10 of Flair's allies. Though only a rookie, Luger was considered by many to be the man most likely to dethrone Flair.

When Luger arrived in the World Championship area last January, most experts felt he'd make Flair his prime target. But Luger was recruited by the Horsemen and became an official member when Ole Anderson fell into disfavor with the group. Luger believed this to be the chance of a lifetime. His former tag team partner and best friend, Barry Wind-

Ric Flair's plans to hold the NWA World title a fifth time may be cut very short by a young man many feel will be the next superstar of the sport. Lex Luger is now Flair's enemy—and that means trouble for "The Nature Boy"

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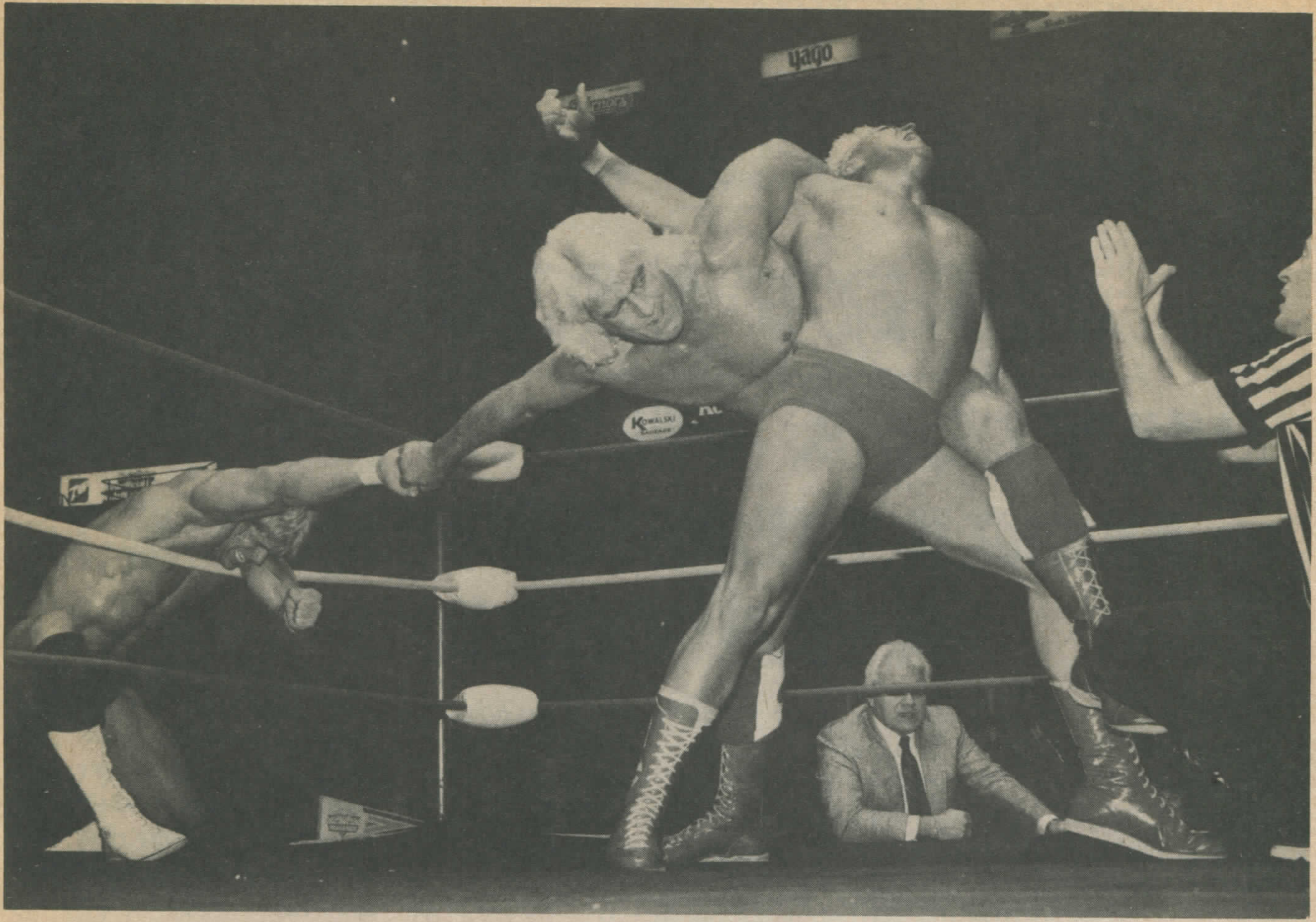
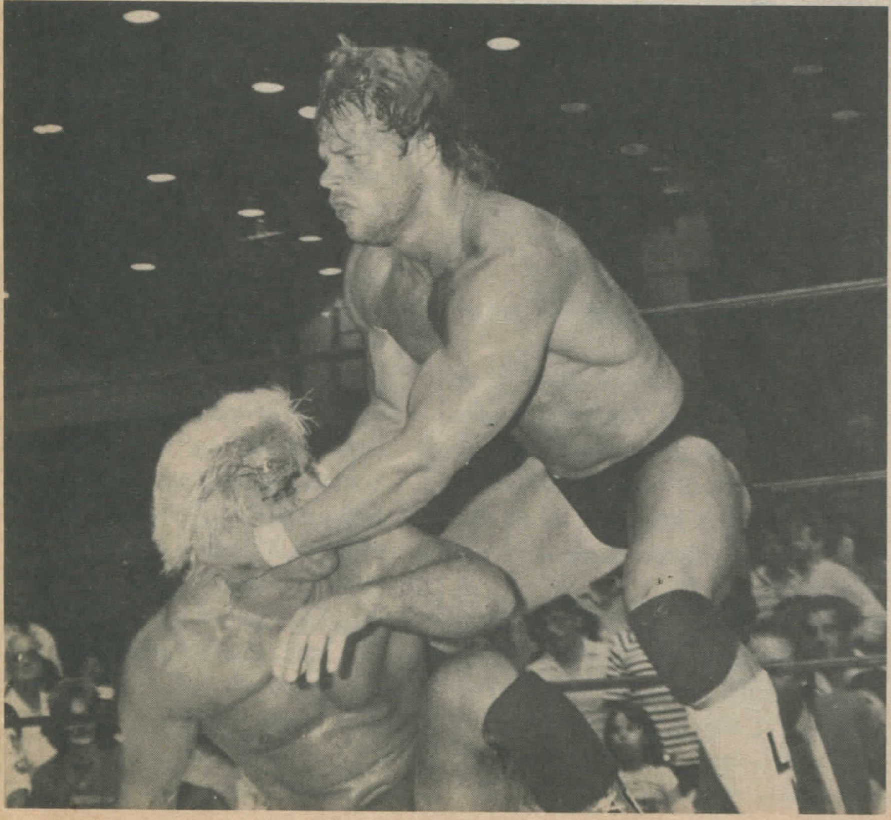


Before his split with the Horsemen, Lex Luger could always be counted on to help his comrades by, for example, giving Ric Flair added leverage on an abdominal stretch (above). But now Flair and Luger are enemies, and that could mean more thrilling championship bouts like those that took place in Florida in 1986 (below).



ham, warned against the move; Luger slapped Windham in the face on national television and joined the group.

And people wondered: Were the Horsemen protecting Flair from Luger?

It made sense. In Florida, Luger received only a handful of shots at Flair. In the World Championship area, he would be one of Flair's main challengers. Luger was rapidly developing into a superstar (he was voted Rookie of the Year for 1986) and might have made short work of Flair. But by taking Luger into their clique, the Horsemen assured that he would *never* get a shot at Flair.

"That's definitely what they figured," said Luger, "because I've realized over the past 11 months that they're only out for themselves. They didn't care what happened to me. My U.S. title was just another feather in Dillon's cap. Arn Anderson and Tully Blanchard wanted me with

(Continued on page 58)

HOTSEAT

JERRY LAWLER

"MY CWA BELT IS WORTH MORE THAN HENNIG'S AWA TITLE!"

AMAZING AS IT may seem, Jerry "The King" Lawler has never held a World singles title during his 18 years in the sport—despite holding victories over Hulk Hogan, Nick Bockwinkel, Harley Race, and Ric Flair.

But Lawler, who has won several regional titles in the Mid-Southern area and held the AWA World tag belts with Bill Dundee for 19 days this past October, may have achieved nearly as significant a goal. In December, Lawler defeated Jeff Jarrett and Manny Fernandez in separate matches for the first-ever Championship Wrestling Association title.

The CWA title was created when Mid-Southern officials decided that their AWA Southern, AWA International, and Mid-America titles created too much confusion among the fans. They chose to unify the belts, bringing the respective champions—Lawler, Fernandez , and Jarrett—together for a one-day round-robin tournament.

Lawler came out on top; he usually does. Indeed, Jerry Lawler is one of the most respected men in the sport. Curt Hennig knows why: The AWA World champ has had his hands full in several recent matches against Lawler, and their war should continue well into 1988.

Inside Wrestling Managing Editor Craig Peters flew to Memphis to speak with "The King" about these recent developments. As usual, Lawler didn't hesitate to take his place . . . on the "Hotseat."

> **"I'm never afraid to put my career on the line. I could've retired a long time ago and been very proud of what I've achieved, but I've found that there's always new things to shoot for in this game."**

Q: Jerry, congratulations on a great victory for the CWA title. I must admit it was no surprise that you won the belt. It seems that whenever something important is on the line, you're always there to pick it up.

A: **That's because I'm never afraid to put my career on the line for anything that's worth my trouble. You know, Craig, I could've retired a long time ago and been very proud of what I've achieved, but I've found that there's always new things to shoot for in this game. When you get right down to it, being a wrestler is what I love most; when that's the case, you're not afraid to make certain sacrifices.**

Q: Let's talk a little about the unification match. A few days before the tournament, your friend Jeff Jarrett, whom you eventually defeated in the first round, accused you of punching too much. What was your reaction to that?

A: **Well, let me first say that I was very surprised to hear Jeff say that, because we're very good friends. I'm not really sure why he said it, but it probably came out because of all the excitement about the unification tournament. Me, Jeff, and Fernandez put a lot on the line. All three of us were going in with a title, and only one of us was going to come out of it with anything. So Jeff probably said some things he really didn't mean.**

Q: Are you denying that you throw illegal punches?

A: **The only time I'll throw a closed-fist punch is when my opponent does it first. Otherwise, my punches are thrown with an open fist and are completely legal. Jeff**

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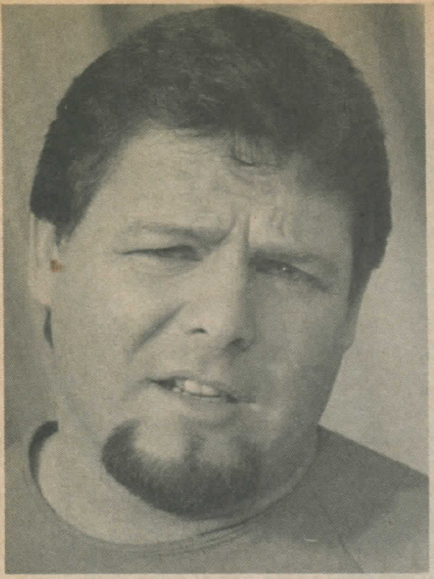
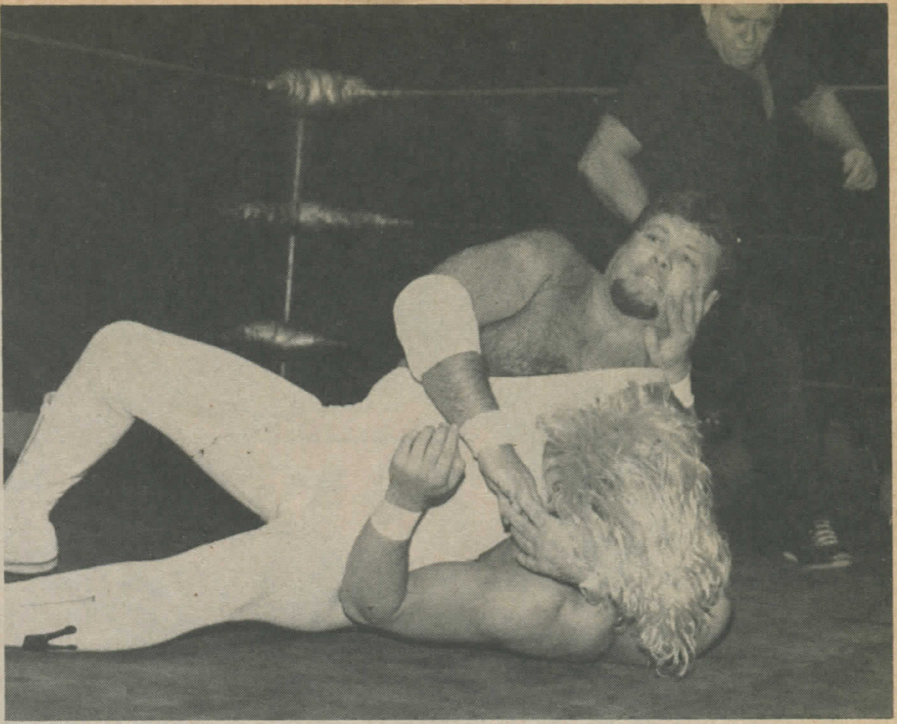
"KING"
Jerry Lawler



> **“[Curt Hennig is] arrogant, disrespectful, and has no idea what it means to be a champion. He’s a disgrace to the belt Verne Gagne wore so proudly for so many years.”**



Jerry Lawler, the first-ever CWA champion, applies a side headlock on Jeff Jarrett. Lawler had to face Jarrett, the former Mid-America titlist, in the first round of a round-robin tournament to determine the first CWA heavyweight champion.

knows that, and so does everybody else. The only time I ever use a closed fist is when I do the fistdrop off the ropes, and that’s only in retaliation for when my opponent does something illegal to me. Case closed.

Q: Actually, there were two times during the match when it looked like you threw an illegal punch. But besides that, it was an exceptional scientific match. What was it like wrestling somebody like Jeff?

A: It’s a lot different from wrestling somebody you’re feuding with. Jeff and I have mutual respect for one another, and neither of us were going to resort to illegal tactics, so I really didn’t have to be on the lookout for any dirty moves by Jeff. Personally, though, I would’ve preferred wrestling Fernandez in the first round.

Q: How come?

A: Because it would’ve been great to wrestle Jeff for the belt. Then one of us would’ve been guaranteed to win the title. The way things went, Fernandez came close to winning the belt, and that would’ve been a disgrace.

Q: As it turned out, though, Fernandez was disqualified for bashing you on the arm several times with a chair. That came as no surprise, did it?

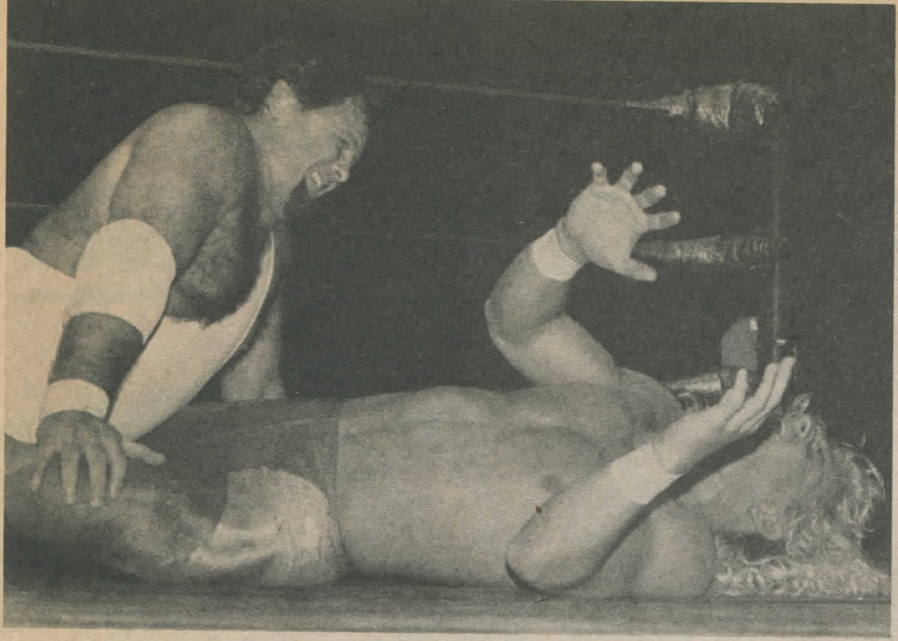
A: Of course not. A man like Fernandez can’t control his natural aggression for an entire match. The belt was on the line, all three Mid-Southern titles wrapped into one, but he preferred to try and injure me, even though he knew he was going to get disqualified. Tactics like that will keep Fernandez from ever becoming anything. He just has his priorities out of order.

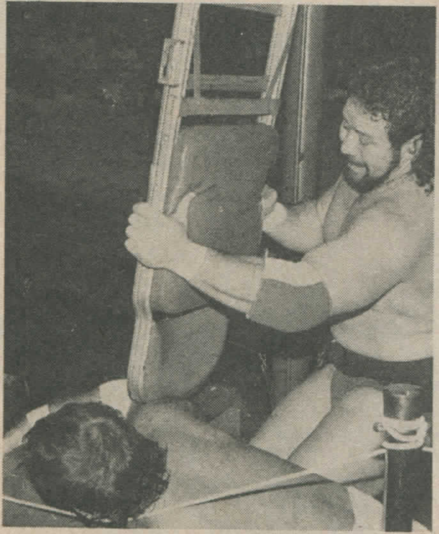
Q: What was your reaction when you found out that the three Mid-Southern titles were being unified?

A: I thought it was a great decision. You see, the AWA Southern title was always considered the most important. But the other two, the International and Mid-America, took away from it somewhat. I think it confused the fans, because there were just too many titles and too many men after all the different belts. Their attention was spread out. The Southern title just didn’t have the respect it deserved. By unifying the three titles into one major belt, the championship will have more meaning than ever. There’ll be one title, one champ, and everybody’s gonna be after him—uh, me. Holding on to the belt is gonna be tougher than ever before. The CWA title is really going to mean something. In fact, I think my CWA belt is worth more than Curt Hennig’s AWA title. In more ways than one.

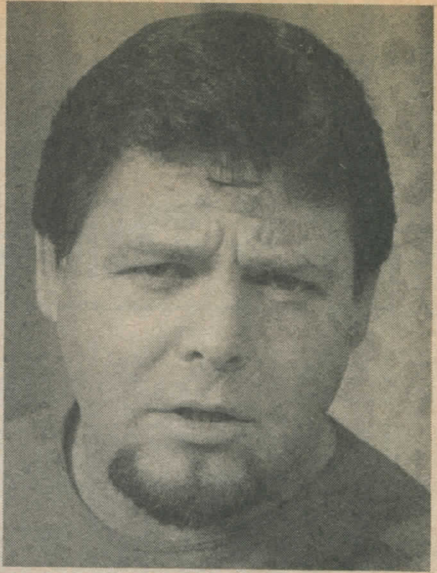
Q: What do you mean “in more ways than one”?

A: First of all, I think the caliber of competition in the Mid-Southern area—well, now it’s the CWA area, right?—is better than in the AWA. But most importantly, it has to do with integrity. Hennig has defended the title by cheating, outside interference, and refusing to wrestle the top challengers. If not for his father, he would’ve lost the belt on Thanksgiving. I don’t need outside interference to keep the title, and I certainly don’t have to cheat. As for wrestling the top challengers, I’m ready to take on *anyone* who wants me. My goal is to make the CWA title the most





More action from the CWA title tournament: Lawler tangles with Jarrett (top) and Manny Fernandez smashes Lawler's arm with the point of a chair (above). The chair incident caused Fernandez's disqualification, allowing Lawler to take the belt.



> **"I'm ready to take on anyone who wants me. My goal is to make the CWA title the most important championship in the world. I have a responsibility to this"**

important championship in the world. As the first champion, I feel I have a responsibility to this belt. I must set the standard that all future champions will live by.

Q: Very bold words. But then again, you've always set high standards for yourself. You said that your CWA title is more important than Hennig's AWA World title. Does that mean you're no longer interested in winning the World championship?

A: **No, and for the simple reason that I've never won one. You know, winning the AWA tag belts with Bill [Dundee] was one of the greatest achievements of my life. But it seems like people are still saying, "Lawler's had a great career, but he's never won the big one." Until I win the World title, everybody's gonna keep on saying that. I don't agree with them, but I want there to be no doubt in everyone's mind that I'm one of the greatest wrestlers of all time. To do that, I'm gonna have to win the World title.**

Q: Do you respect Hennig?

A: **I used to, when he was a great scientific wrestler. But not anymore.**

Q: Why not?

A: **Because of his father. Because of the way he's become a rulebreaker. Because he's arrogant, disrespectful, and has no idea what it means to be a champion. He's a disgrace to the belt Verne Gagne wore so proudly for so many years. I think that's the main reason why Verne is helping out Greg. He can't believe what Hennig is doing to his title.**

Q: That's an interesting analysis. You don't think Verne is helping out Greg because he's his son?

A: **Obviously that's part of the reason, but it's not the whole thing. I know that before I wrestled Hennig the last time, I got a telegram from Verne wishing me luck.**

Q: Would you mind if Greg Gagne won the title before you did?

A: **Honestly? Yes. I want that title. I'd tip my hat to Greg if he beat Curt. But from an entirely selfish standpoint, I want that belt. And if Greg won the title from Curt, I wouldn't hesitate to ask for a title shot.**

Q: Would you give up your CWA title if it meant a chance to win the World title?

A: **What do you mean?**

Q: Well, let's say you were offered a series of title shots against Hennig, but they interfered with your CWA title defense schedule so much that you had to give up the belt. Would you do it?

A: **No. Like I said, the CWA belt is worth more than any title held by Hennig. It all has to do with the quality of the champion. And besides, my fans are here in Memphis. This is my home; it's where I made my career. I owe a debt of gratitude to these fans. I won't turn my back on them.** ☐

The Rude-Orndorff Debate Is Over

THE ULTIMATE WARRIOR HAS THE ULTIMATE PHYSIQUE!

REMEMBER THE CONTROVERsy that once existed in the WWF over who had the best physique? The controversy that caused Paul Orndorff to turn against Bobby Heenan? The controversy that precipitated the war between Orndorff and Rick Rude?

The debate still rages, although the question has been amended slightly. Now, one asks: Who has the *second* best physique in the WWF? The Ultimate Warrior has made the initial question academic.

This is a second incarnation for The Ultimate Warrior. Wrestling in the World Class area under the name Dingo Warrior, his sculptured frame and bulging muscles made fans forget all about resident hunk

While Rick Rude and Paul Orndorff were feuding over the question of who possesses the best physique in the WWF, the answer was provided in the form of a third man with no involvement in the feud at all: The Ultimate Warrior!

E!

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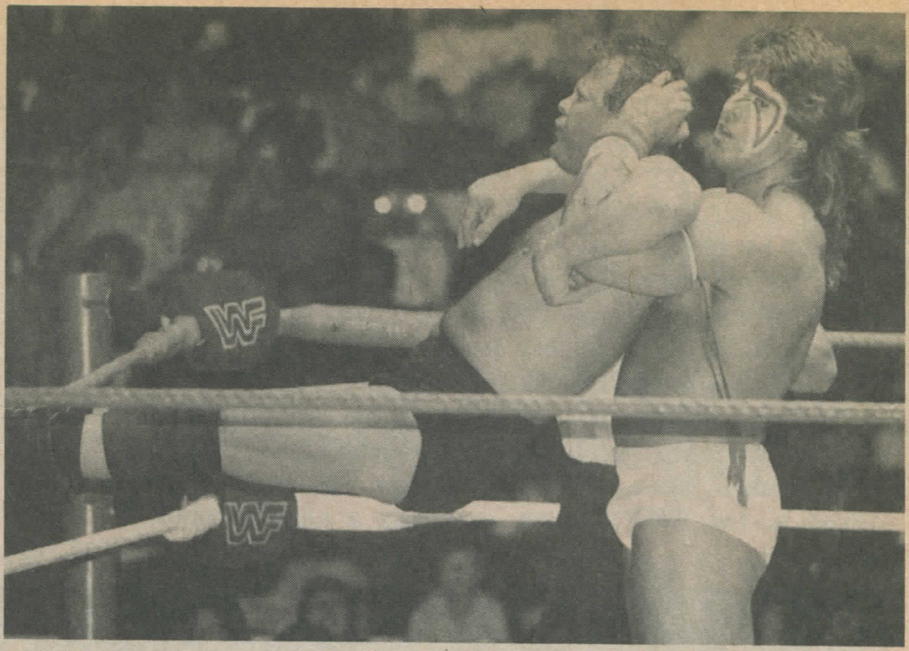
Kerry Von Erich. "He made an immediate impact in World Class," recalls Dallas correspondent Andrew Ray. "The Von Erichs were extremely jealous of him. They couldn't stand to share the crowds with him. When he captured the Texas title, they got ulcers. They tried everything they could to get rid of him."

Although the two camps eventually reconciled and became allies, The Ultimate Warrior hasn't forgotten those troubled times. "He keeps to himself," says a WWF source. "He locks himself in the gym, he trains, and he wrestles. He rarely socializes. He doesn't really care what other people think, and wasn't very concerned about Bobby Heenan and the best body question."

Just months ago, Heenan appeared to have answered the question of who owned the WWF's best body. With a stable consisting of Hernandez, Orndorff, and Rude, the outspoken Heenan virtually owned them all; he had cornered the market on deltoids. Never before had one manager ruled such an immense kingdom of power and muscle. One columnist half seriously advised Heenan to display his men under glass in arena lobbies and charge admission; rumors that Heenan investigated the price of portable cages cannot be substantiated.

Then, during an interview, Heenan claimed it was Rude who owned the greatest physique in the sport. This didn't sit well with either Hernandez or Orndorff. Heenan managed to assuage Hernandez's hurt feelings, but Orndorff was inconsolable. He split from Heenan and initiated a feud with Rude to prove that his ring skills—as well as his body—were far superior.

While their feud raged around the country, Ultimate Warrior, with hardly any fanfare, began to emerge on the WWF scene. Long hidden in opening preliminary matches—a time when many fans are seeking refreshments and sou-



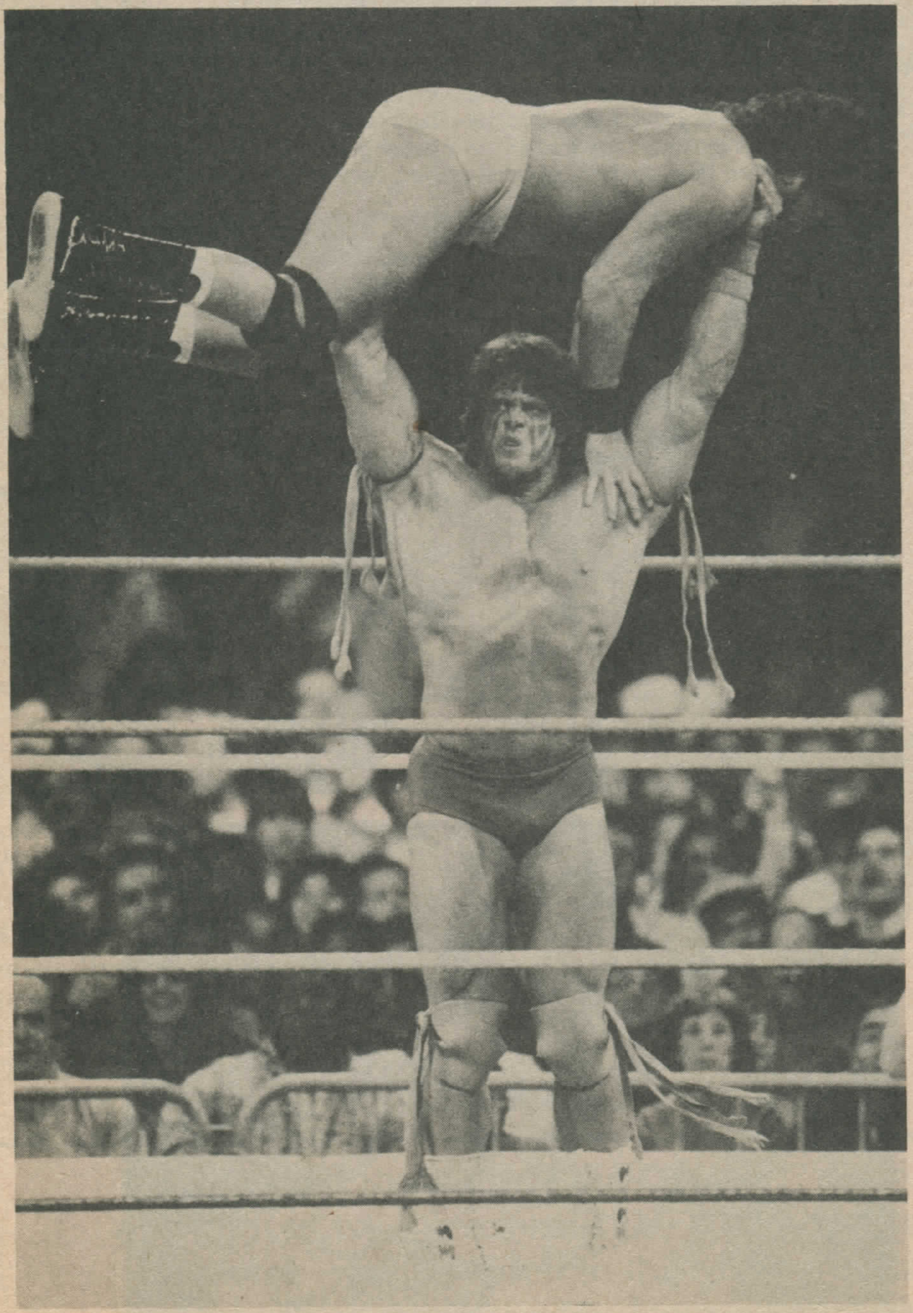
As his physique would indicate, The Ultimate Warrior relies on power in the ring. He applies a full-nelson on Terry Gibbs (above), covers Barry Horowitz for the pin (below), and chops Steve Lombardi (bottom). The Warrior has a better body than anyone in Bobby Heenan's family—including Paul Orndorff, who left Heenan because of the body controversy.

venirs—Ultimate Warrior began to bring the crowd to its feet for cheers rather than hot dogs as he handily vanquished opponent after opponent.

Since then, Ultimate Warrior appears to be getting paid by how quickly he can dispose of his opponents; rarely has one of his matches lasted beyond two minutes. The Warrior's debut reminds Senior Editor Bill Apter of the debut of current WWF superstar Randy Savage.

"Remember when Savage first arrived in the WWF?" Apter explained. "He was a mysterious commodity everyone clamored to see. Who was he? What was he about? Few of his matches lasted more than a minute. And each victory was more spectacular than the last. Ultimate Warrior doesn't have the aerial skills of Savage, but no one comes close to his power and muscle. The Warrior may be as strong as Andre the Giant was in his prime."

Since the only thing bigger than bodybuilders' muscles are their egos, The Ultimate Warrior can expect a cool reception from WWF musclemen like Butch Reed, Billy Jack Haynes, Hercules Hernandez, Paul Orndorff, Rick Rude, Randy Savage, and Hulk Hogan. Although he hasn't verbally communicated any threats, Ultimate Warrior has sent out a message to the rest of the WWF—especially the musclemen. "Each posedown carries its own warning," says Apter. "With each victory, Ultimate Warrior is laying his foundation. When he flexes his body, he is really saying 'I'm a force to be reckoned with.' "



Pressing Horowitz overhead is no problem for the Warrior, who has put WWF musclemen on notice. The Warrior may soon be one of the federation's top title contenders.

If one wishes to place any credibility in the WWF's Slammy Awards, then it is Rude who has the WWF's best physique—at least according to the judges on the telecast. In the "Best Body" category, Rude outpolled Reed, Hernandez, and The Ultimate Warrior to capture the "honor." According to *Inside Wrestling* columnist Liz Hunter, however, the final vote reflected more politics than pectorals.

"Heenan was desperate for Rude to win the award," Hunter said. "When Orndorff left the fold, Heenan looked very foolish. Why would a manager make disruptive statements like he did? In order to save face, Rude had to win 'Best Body.' Heenan was instrumental in Orndorff not getting nominated. He used all his influence and called all his markers to get the vote out for Rude. When Rude won, Heenan's sigh of relief was visible. He was vindicated.

"The only problem," Hunter continued, "is that everyone knows a scam was on because the Ultimate Warrior clearly has the best body in all of wrestling, not only the WWF. I'm an old fan of Rick Rude's, and I think Orndorff looks swell, but Ultimate Warrior is in a class by himself. Attending one of his posedowns can knock the wind right out of you. But he's considered a rookie around here. He was easy to overlook. But not for long."

Judging by his performance so far in the WWF, Ravishing Rick may be in for a rude awakening. Ultimate Warrior doesn't like second place. ☐

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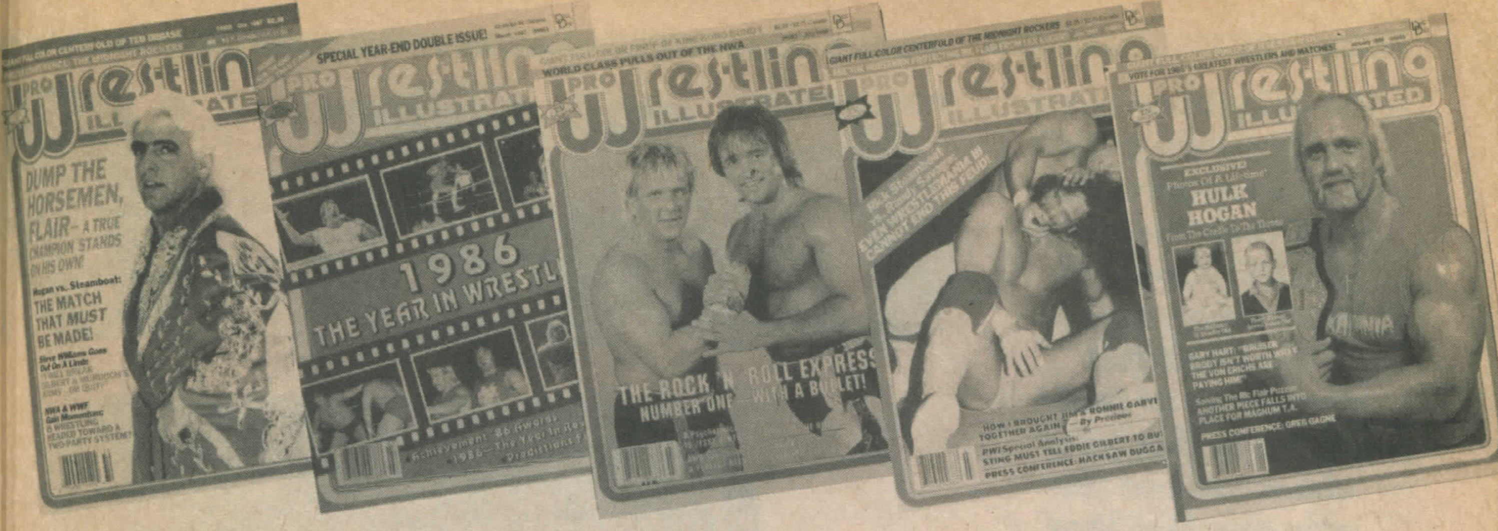
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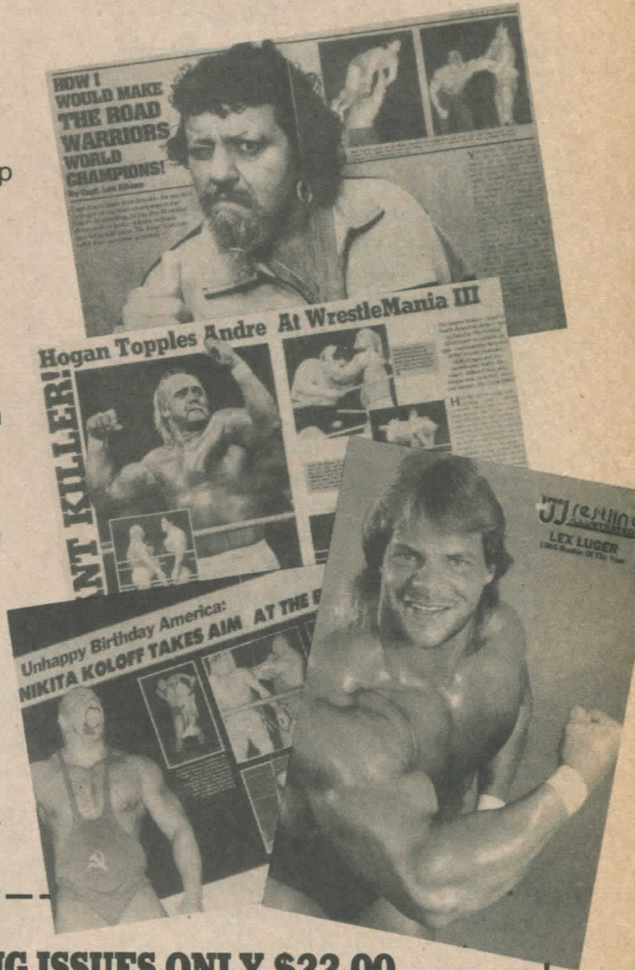
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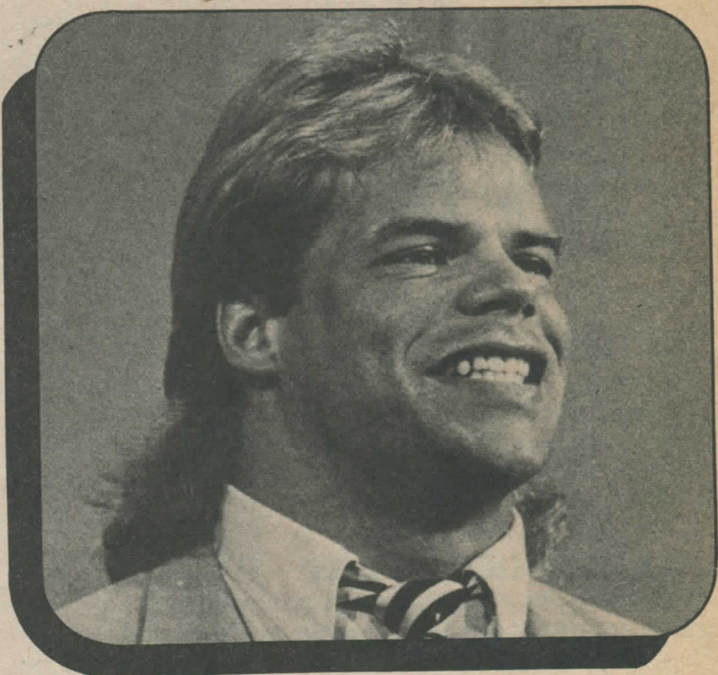
ONE O



"I'm ready to soar to new heights. I'll be the best there ever was. And I sure as hell don't need you to get me there."
—Lex Luger

THE WRESTLING WORLD was shocked and stunned when, on December 2 in Miami Beach, Lex Luger turned on manager J.J. Dillon and The Four Horsemen during the first Bunkhouse Stampede of the season. Six days earlier, at Starrcade '87, Luger lost his U.S. title to archrival Dusty Rhodes—due, in large part, to Dillon's interference. By the time the Stampede came along, Luger decided he had enough of team play.

Luger, Dillon, Arn Anderson, and Tully Blanchard were the only men remaining in the Stampede—an anything-goes battle royal. Arn and Tully followed Dillon's orders to dive over the ropes so Dillon could win the match and the $25,000 prize. Luger, however, refused to take a dive. Instead, he threw Dillon over the top rope. Anderson and Blanchard then attacked Luger until Mike Rotundo and several others came to the rescue.

Afterward, Luger said that he isn't a team player and wasn't going to sacrifice himself for Dillon. In other words, he was now out on his own. He said he didn't want to follow Dillon's game plan for Starrcade because he could win without cheating. It was Dillon's Starrcade game plan, the manager counters, that enabled Ric Flair to regain the NWA World title and Anderson and Blanchard to keep the World tag belts. Therefore, Luger could only blame himself for the loss.

Now, less than a year after Luger joined the Horsemen, he has left them. Their war of fists and words has been fought on television and in the print media. But Dillon and Luger never engaged in a hard debate on the issues until ***Inside Wrestling*** *brought them together . . . "One on One."*

J.J. DILLON: Well, young man, it seems that my worst fears about you have come to pass. You could have had it all—fame, fortune, titles. In short, everything that comes from being associated with the most elite group of wrestlers in the history of the sport. But you just couldn't follow orders, could you?

LEX LUGER: My job isn't to follow orders, Dillon, especially from a wimp like you. I had my doubts about you after Starrcade, but when I saw that you were willing to take credit for a victory by having your men dive over the ropes, I realized exactly what you *really* are. You've never worked an honest day in your life, have you?

JJ: *Wimp? Work?* How long have you been in the sport? I was in barbed-wire cage matches before you were toilet trained. I've seen 20 times as much action as you have. You're still wet behind the ears. I've paid my dues on my own, before I gained the stature and respect that allowed other great wrestlers to trust me with their careers. Do you think the NWA heavyweight champion and tag team champions would trust their careers to anyone less than the best?

LL: Come off it, J.J. How many championships have *you* won?

ON ONE

"I brought you farther along than you ever could have gone yourself. You're too stupid to see that."
—J.J. Dillon

How many times have *you* worn a major title belt around your waist? I'll tell you: none, zero, zilch. Your career was a washout, Dillon, and you can't deny it. You were easy pickings for every prelim bum in the world. You know what they say: Those who can't, teach, and that's exactly what you did.

JJ: Wait just a second, you . . .

LL: Shut up! You bought yourself a bunch of wrestlers and *they* made *you* great, not the other way around. Don't forget, Dillon, that I was Southern heavyweight champion *without* you, and I'd still have the U.S. title if not *because* of you. As for Tully and Arn, they're just a couple of mindless sheep playing follow the leader.

JJ: *Sheep? Prelim bum?* You wouldn't have lasted one month wrestling when and where I wrestled in my time, punk. Do you know why? Because it was every man for himself. Nobody had any friends and nobody took any prisoners. And that's where I rose above them. I realized that the first man who could knit together an elite group of wrestlers and guide them *together* would trample the opposition. I may not have been the best wrestler ever, but I am clearly the most successful manager in history. Even my worst enemies don't dare deny it. Will you?

LL: All I know is that the facts speak for themselves. In one year, Dillon, you've lost two of your most important men: first Ole Anderson, then me. Who do you think is next? Maybe Flair?

JJ: Flair is not only a better wrestler than you, he's also a lot smarter. A lot smarter. Our relationship is based on mutual respect and trust and is as solid as a rock . . .

LL: Yeah, the rocks in your head.

JJ: . . . and I never lost faith in him, nor he in me, after he temporarily misplaced the title to Ronnie Garvin. Instead, he decided to train harder than I've ever seen a man—or even you, Luger—train for a match. He let me handle the strategy, and the end result was title number five. But you couldn't take losing your title to that fat amoeba Dusty Rhodes. Instead of reacting like a man, you looked back instead of forward and came to an incorrect conclusion.

LL: Go ahead, Dillon, deceive yourself, but I know what I am: the most awesome package in professional wrestling. When I retire, they're going to list me among the greatest ever, they're going to remember me for what I was and what I am: a solid mass of muscle, the most capable athlete professional wrestling has ever seen, the most unbeatable man in the sport's history. And you're just going to be a footnote to my career. All you've really done is set me back. I can only imagine where I'd be right now if not for you.

JJ: I brought you farther along than you ever could have gone yourself. You're too stupid to see that, along with one other very important fact: You've made some enemies during your time with the Horsemen, and they're not exactly going to welcome you with open arms. You're a fish out of water without the Horsemen.

LL: But at least I'm not going down with a sinking ship. If there's one thing I've learned in the past year, it's that I don't need anybody to get where I want. I don't need your help or anybody else's. I've got all I need right here, with this body and this mind. I jumped too fast when I first came to the this area. I thought that if I caught on with the Horsemen, I'd have it made. But that's just not the case. I'm ready to soar to new heights. I'll be the best there ever was. And I sure as hell don't need you to get me there. ☐

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SINCERELY YOURS

(Continued from page 6)

you say they're finished, Well, darlin', they've only just begun. If Ricky and Robert think they're washed up, they're wrong. They should grow from this experience and better themselves. I love this team so much. They are going to go far. Don't count them out yet! Rock 'n' Roll *will* live forever!

JENNY PIERCE
E. Peoria, IL

MACHO-MOUSE

After reading your article "Randy Savage Has Wimped Out! A Special Analysis By Jesse Ventura" in the February 1988 issue, I couldn't agree with Jesse more. I remember at one time Jesse wanted to join forces with the then-"Macho Man," but now the tide has turned for the worst. Savage is now friends with Hogan and he calls the team of him and Hogan "The

Randy Savage puts a definite stop to Jimmy Hart's interference. Reader Philip Bruno agrees with Jesse Ventura that "Macho Man" Savage has "wimped out." Bruno thinks Savage has fallen into a trap set by Hulk Hogan.

Megapowers." What a jerk you are, Savage!

Savage, as far as I'm concerned, you are nothing but a mouse in a trap with Hogan, the "big cheese." You could have been the WWF champ, but no, you became friends with Hogan and you will never be champion. Boy, I really loved it when you were tough and brutal. You were at one time, you big jerk!

PHILIP BRUNO
New York

BACKLUND OVER HOGAN

Your article, "Is Hulk Hogan Bored With The WWF Title?" (January 1988) was very interesting to read. If Hogan is asking "Isn't there anybody around here who can give me a challenging match?", the answer is: Bob Backlund. Bob sure could give Hogan more than a challenging match, but Hogan is afraid to wrestle him. Hogan knows Backlund has beaten him before and could do it again.

Vince McMahon knows this and is afraid to put Backlund and Hogan in the same ring. McMahon knows that if Hogan loses the WWF belt, there goes millions of dollars in advertisements and wrestling attractions. McMahon is no fool.

However, if a match between Backlund and Hogan occurred, I'm sure it would be the match of the decade. It would probably attract more people than WrestleMania III.

WARREN LEES
Oshawa, ONT

BAD MOVES

I am writing about a couple of former AWA champions who vacated their belts to jump to the WWF. I think this is a dirty way of making the AWA look bad.

Well, Vinnie [McMahon], you can't change history. The AWA made Hulk Hogan, Andre the Giant, Jesse Ventura, Haku [King Tonga], Rick Martel, Tito Santana, Ken Patera, Gene Okerlund, and others what they are today.

As for Sherri Martel, she hit it big in the AWA, then turned her back to

(Continued on page 50)

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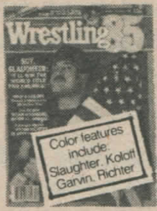
Wrestling 85
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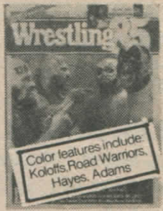
Wrestling 85
Color features include: Koloffs, Road Warriors, Hayes, Adams

☐ Fall/85

Wrestling 85
Color features include: Steamboat, Dr Death, Blanchard, Slaughter

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Wrestling 86
Color features include: Roberts, Windham, Koloffs, Magnum TA

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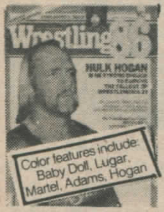
Wrestling 86
Color features include: Baby Doll, Lugar, Martel, Adams, Hogan

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Wrestling 86
Color features include: Animal vs. Hawk, Koloff, Lance Von Erich

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Wrestling 86
Color features include: Flair-Rhodes, Lawler, Cornette, Missy Hyatt

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Wrestling 87
Color features include: Nikita Koloff, Orndorff, R&R Express, Kerry

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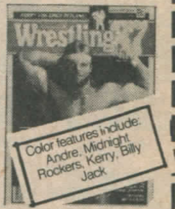
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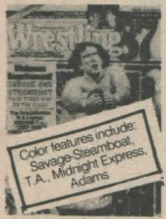
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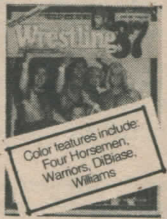
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SINCERELY YOURS

(Continued from page 49)

go to the circus. Boris Zukhov, you will *never* hold a title in the WWF; you're already getting lost in the shuffle. Your partner, Nikolai Volkoff, was already beaten by former Mid-Sourthern area wrestler Bam Bam Bigelow.

Read and weep, McMahon, history lives!

JERRY PARENT
Elk River, MN

INSIGHTS GALORE

I've been an *Inside Wrestling* reader for 10 years and I had to write and say your February 1988 issue was by far the best ever. Why?

1. "On The Road" with Craig Peters: It was interesting to see how "Black Monday" affected some of wrestling's big wheels, although I find it hard to believe none of them were hurt; indeed, they gained.

2. The report on Mad Dog Vachon in "Names Makin' News": I had heard bits and pieces of this story, but it was not until now that I found out all the details. Thanks.

3. "The Insider": Eddie Ellner has always been my favorite columnist (his insight is remarkable), but his article on Greg Valentine was outstanding. I, too, believe Valentine has a better-than-average chance of beating Hulk Hogan, and he deserves that chance.

4. Matt Brock in a rented 'copter. I love it.

5. A feature article on Sting ("Bee-Line To Success: Sting's Plan For UWF Domination!")

6. The "Roll Call Of Champions," unique to this publication and vital to those who enjoy following the ever-changing title scene.

7. "It's Time For The Rock 'n' Roll Express To Split Up": I agree. Sure, they were successful, but they've peaked out. Better to quit now than to become undercard shadows of what they were.

8. Guest writer Jesse Ventura: His personal insight into his own relationship with the fans was great. His view

of Hogan was a masterstroke. What better way to stop a threat to his title than to befriend the threat. When will the fans wise up and see that the only loyalty Hogan has is to himself?

9 & 10. "Behind The Dressing Room Door" and the Paul E. Dangerously feature ("I Wanted Lawler & Dundee To Win The AWA Belts!"): Yes, this is the man who has and will continue to save the AWA singlehandedly. After hitting rock bottom early last summer, the AWA has been rebuilding. As with the Minnesota Twins and Vikings, this Minnesota-based wrestling promotion has never been known for lucrative contracts that attract superstars. Instead, they create their own superstars. Dangerously is one of these people. He and the AWA have thus far proven to be very beneficial to each other, and it has only just begun. By now, everyone will have heard that everything that was said about Dangerously in those articles has indeed come to pass.

J.L. BARNETT
Fergus Falls, MN ☐

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SUMMER 1984/Color pinups: Patera-Gagne, Windham-Bart, Bundy-Garvin, Koloff-Mosca. **Stories include:** Junkyard Dog, Flair-Race, Adams-Garvin, Snuka, Idol, Orndorff.

FALL 1984/Color pinups: Haynes-Nagasaki, Kabuki-Kamala, Steamboat-Slater, Blanchard-Colon. **Stories include:** Hogan, David Von Erich, Flair-Brody, Blanchard.

WINTER 1984/Color pinups: Michael Hayes, Flair-McDaniel, Gilbert-Rich, Haynes-Funk. **Stories include:** Kerry Von Erich, Martel-Bockwinkel, Piper, Flair-Steamboat.

SPRING 1985/Color pinups: Animal-Funk, Poffo-Gilbert, Nikita-Fernandez, Garvin-McDaniel. **Stories include:** Warriors, Hogan, Albano, Rhodes, Sullivan.

SUMMER 1985/Color pinups: Kerry-Flair, Hawk-Lawler, Funk-Slater, Nikita-Rhodes. **Stories include:** Valentine, Windham & Rotundo, Warriors, Flair-Race, Nikita.

FALL 1985/Color pinups: Adams-Kevin Von Erich, Zbyszko-Backlund, Lawler-Brody, Blanchard-T.A. **Stories include:** Von Erichs, Warriors, Hogan-Volkoff, Freebirds.

WINTER 1985/Color pinups: Flair-Kevin Von Erich, Hayes-Hawk, Hogan-Fujinami, DiBiase-Roberts. **Stories include:** Orndorff, Warriors, Brody, Shultz, Duggan.

SPRING 1986/Color pinups: Windham-Sullivan, Andre-Bundy, Taylor-Landell, Hernandez-Kerry. **Stories include:** R&R Express, Warriors, Hogan, Santana, Rude, Williams.

SUMMER 1986/Color pinups: Luger-Barr, Garvin-Flair, Nord-Hawk, Missy-Sunshine. **Stories include:** Warriors-Russians, Savage-Hogan, Kevin Von Erich, Bulldogs.

FALL 1986/Color pinups: Kirchner-Volkoff, Nikita-Hawk, Morton-Flair, Nord-Hennig. **Stories include:** R&R Express, Luger, Savage, Bulldogs, Hansen, Rude, Williams.

WINTER 1986/Color pinups: Rude-Von Erich, Khrushchev-Mantel, Hogan-Adonis, Bockwinkel-DeBeers. **Stories include:** Supercards, Hogan-Orndorff, Horsemen, Snuka, Von Erich.

SPRING 1987/Color pinups: Von Erich-Zulu, Roberts-Hillbilly, Morton-Anderson, DiBiase-Hayes. **Stories include:** Bigelow, Flair, Hogan, Luger, Race, Windham, Hyatt.

SUMMER 1987/Color pinups: Roberts-Kamala, Von Erich-Perez, Morton-Koloff, Snuka-Zukhov. **Stories include:** Windham, Elizabeth, Superpowers, Williams, Albano, Von Erich.

FALL 1987/Color pinups: Animal-Lane, Bigelow-Inoki, Sullivan-Hall, Ware-Honky Tonk. **Stories include:** Midnights, Flair, Steamboat-Savage, Luger, Piper, Hogan-Andre.

WINTER 1987/Color pinups: Tama-Santana, Perez-Steamboat, Rhodes-Flair, Gordy-Gilbert. **Stories include:** Luger-Nikita, R&R Express, Hart, Hogan-Race, Hyatt, Lawler.

SPRING 1988/Color pinups: Jason-Hart, Konga-Sting, OMG-Santana, Von Erich-Adias. **Stories include:** Warriors, Hogan-Andre, DiBiase, Honky Tonk, Magnum T.A., War Games.

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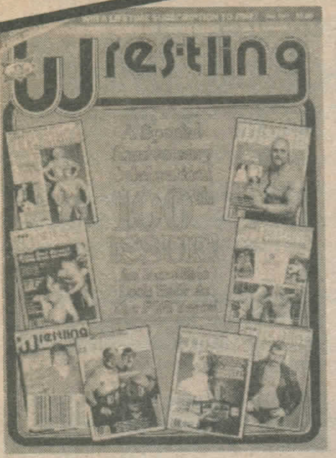

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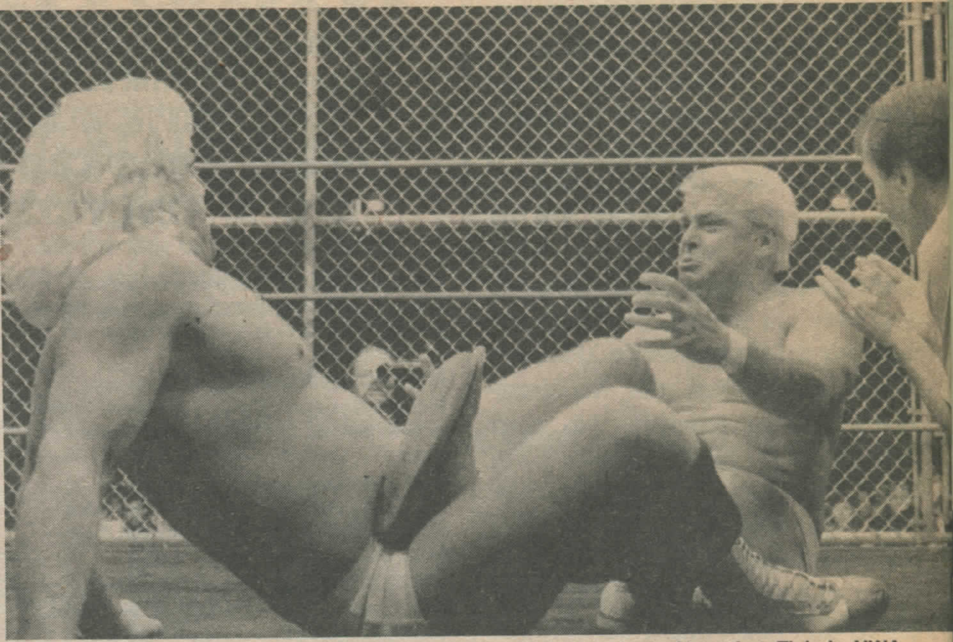
THE INSIDER

(Continued from page 18)



Ronnie Garvin fights hard to resist Ric Flair's figure-four leglock. Now that Flair is NWA World champion again, Ellner hopes Flair will concentrate on wrestling well instead of continually getting himself disqualified.

jowls at the prospect of guiding Luger's career. It's not tragic enough that Rhodes transformed Nikita Koloff into a marshmallow. Now he has designs of turning Luger into another Magnum T.A. or some other hideous mediocrity. Hopefully, Luger will tell Rhodes to take his advice and stick it into his jelly folds. And then he'll go out and beat him senseless.

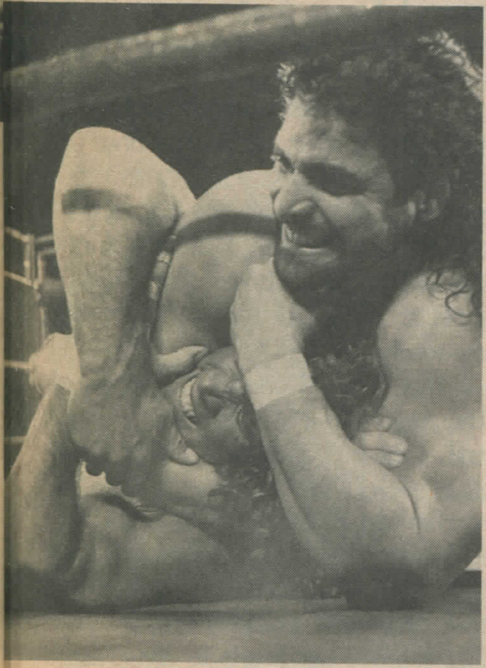
Ric Flair Regains NWA Crown. Raise your hand if you thought Ronnie Garvin had a fighting chance in his rematch against Ric Flair. Neither did I. For all the criticism leveled at Flair, when the money is on the line, he always turns in an outstanding effort. He wrestled a perfect match, combining skill and strategy, foiling every advance Garvin made. As a challenger, Ric Flair is a wonder to behold, a tenacious grappler hellbent on victory. Unfortunately, now that he's champion, we can look forward to long winter months of frustrating disqualifications. If only the NWA would show some guts and allow titles to change hands on a DQ. Unless you have gills, don't hold your breath.

The Slammys. In the great tradition of Uncle Elmer's wedding, *The Rock 'n' Wrestling* cartoon show, and Adrian Adonis' Flower Shop, the WWF recently presented its 37th (37th?) annual Slammy Awards. Vince McMahon sang, Hulk Hogan played bass, and Randy Savage trombone-synched in the brass section. The Honky Tonk Man stopped the show with a dazzling song and dance routine. George Steele captured top prize in the Best Animal category, narrowly edging out Mathilda the bulldog. All this has some bearing on the world of pro wrestling, doesn't it? I'd say it was the most ridiculous thing I've ever seen, but is it anymore ridiculous than the New York Giants Super Bowl video? Or the music video performed by the New York Mets? It's just hard for me to imagine Bruno Sammartino or Killer Kowalski—or Willie Mays for that matter—indulging in such nonsense. Am I right? Am I hopelessly behind the times? Or, praise God no, am I beginning to sound too much like Matt Brock? ☐

ON ASSIGNMENT

(Continued from page 20)

Erich cited a "lack of heart" as the reason he dropped a World Class title match to Al Perez. Beforehand, Fritz Von Erich, who was to be handcuffed to Gary Hart during his son's match to prevent any interference, was severely beaten by Buddy Roberts and Terry Gordy. While the Von Erich patriarch was ambulanced to Baylor Hospital, Kerry half-heartedly discussed match strategy with his brother Kevin. Ringside observers report that although Kerry displayed moments of vintage aggressiveness, his mind appeared to wander. He fell prey to a bit of crude interference by Hart and was subsequently pinned by Perez.



World Class champion Al Perez puts a sleeper on Kerry Von Erich, who was concerned about the condition of his father Fritz. The elder Von Erich was hospitalized after being attacked by The Freebirds.

Afterward, he was reported to have said, "After seeing my dad get beat up like that, I just couldn't get motivated. It took the heart right out of me. All I could think about was him alone in the hospital, being attached to tubes and jabbed with needles. It destroyed my concentration."

Is this pro wrestling or *Days Of Our Lives?* What separated the Von Erichs from the rest of the wrestling world was their ability to separate personal tragedy and their professional careers. How else could they endure in the wake of Mike and David's deaths? Now it appears as if Kerry Von Erich, who exemplified that stiff-lipped courage better than anyone, has cracked.

Fritz condoned his son's reaction from his hospital bed. "The boys have been through a lot lately," he said. "Especially Kerry. He's been so preoccupied with his injury, wondering if he'd be able to come back, that when I got beat up, it must have threw him. It was stupid of me to let those Freebird cowards sneak up on me. I must be preoccupied myself."

I recall a six-man tag match years ago between Mike, Kevin, Kerry and The Freebirds. It came just weeks after David's death, when the family was still numb with grief. Kevin sat in the dressing room, head in hands, and told his father that he would be unable to make it.

Fritz grabbed his son by the hair and stood him upright. Staring him in the eye he hissed, "I won't allow a son of mine to ever say that. Punk out now and what does that say for the memory of your brother? I love you, Kevin, but I will not have that attitude. Not ever, especially not tonight."

What's happened? The family has been through far more than anyone's share of tragedy over the past few years, and the only sane thing to do would be to protect what's left. But the Von Erichs didn't build their legacy on caution. They must be reminded of what *created* their legend. And they must be convinced that the legend can endure. ☐

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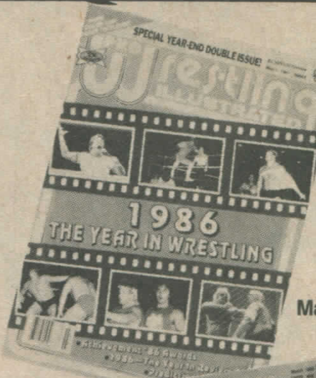

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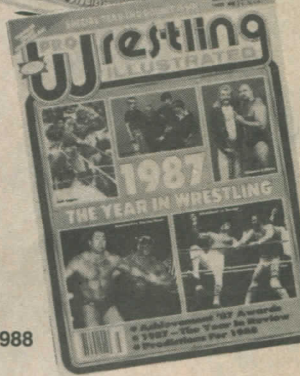

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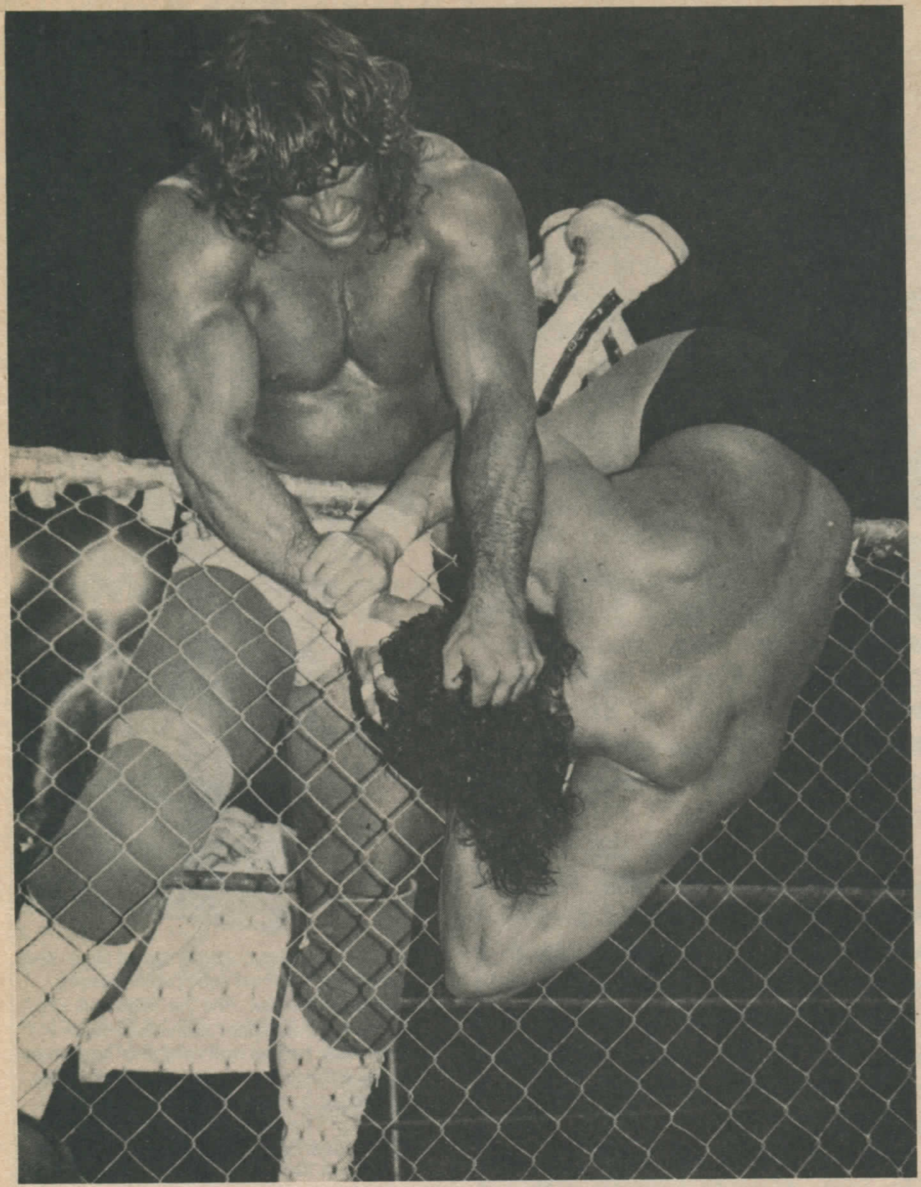
VON ERICHS

(Continued from page 31)



Von Erich has the advantage in his steel cage match against Perez, but it didn't last for long. Kerry admitted that he didn't have his heart in the match because he was worried about his father's injuries; Kerry was pinned by Perez.

Enraged by their earlier defeat at the hands of Kevin, Steve Simpson, and Chris Adams for the vacant World Class six-man title, the three New Freebirds, along with The Angel of Death, had come out before the Kerry-Perez title match to challenge the winner to face Gordy. Strong words were exchanged, and the trio ended up knocking down Kerry and then turning on Fritz.

Stunned, Kerry could do nothing while The Freebirds handcuffed Fritz to one of the ring ropes and brutally beat him with a chair and cane; only Kevin's timely emergence from the dressing room saved his father from more serious injury. Hart and Perez stood by, neither helping nor hindering the attack.

For the first time in his 30-year mat career, the Von Erich patriarch had to exit an arena by stretcher. The title match was held up while Kerry rode with his father in the ambulance to Baylor University Medical Center—a site all too familiar to the Von Erichs. Doctors there first thought that Fritz might have suffered a broken hip (which turned out not to be the case) in addition to his numerous head and neck injuries.

And it was not the same Kerry who returned nearly one hour later to wrestle Perez. He wrestled tentatively and sloppily; clearly his mind was not on the bout. Nevertheless, after 25 minutes of back-and-forth action, Kerry had Perez in serious trouble.

But if Kerry's heart wasn't in the match, Gary Hart's was. Without Fritz to hinder him, he contrived to interfere despite being handcuffed to the ropes. When referee Rick Hazzard was temporarily knocked out, Hart quickly pulled his handcuff chain taut. Perez slammed Kerry's head into the steel links, stunning him and enabling Perez to score the pinfall.

"I can't say what happened to my father didn't affect me in the ring," a disconsolate Kerry stated after the match. "Even though his hip turned out not to be broken, I couldn't know that at the time. I was real worried about it. The attack on my father took me totally by surprise. And I can tell you that Gordy, Roberts, Parsons, and The Angel of Death are going to pay. And I haven't forgotten Hart's little chain trick, either."

Hart and Perez nevertheless claimed to be surprised by The Freebirds' attack. "We had nothing to do with that," Hart told *Inside Wrestling*. "Not that it broke our hearts to see it happen, but we at 'New Age Management' can manage fine without such favors. If Parsons wants to prove that he's worthy of being a Freebird by shattering that old relic, well, we'd really prefer he do it on his own time. But since my man Perez was still able to show his superiority over Kerry, we decided not to file any complaint with the authorities."

Though Hart may be shedding crocodile tears, Kevin and Kerry are now burning for revenge. The two have redefined the meaning of brotherhood. They now have a father to avenge. Those who attack the Von Erichs do so at their own risk, and at the cost of learning a painful lesson: blood gives no quarter. □

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April 1983/COLOR PINUP: Superstar Graham. **Mil Mascaras**, Valentine, Orndorff, Hart.

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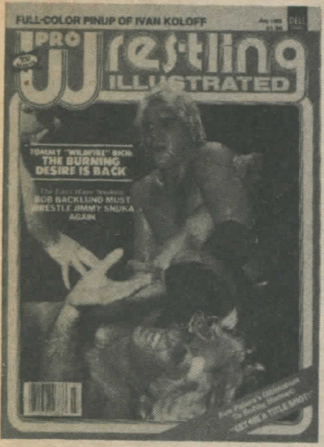
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July 1983/COLOR PINUP: Ivan Koloff. **Tommy Rich**, Patera, Von Erich, Snuka.

August 1983/COLOR PINUP: Larry Zbyszko. **Roddy Piper**, Sullivan, Zbyszko, Von Erich, Wrestling II.

October 1983/COLOR PINUP: Junkyard Dog. **Tommy Rich**, Johnson, Adonis, Rhodes, Piper.

November 1983/COLOR PINUP: Roddy Piper. **Harley Race**, Santana, Mascaras, Ellering, Valiant, Race.

December 1983/COLOR PINUP: Wahoo McDaniel. **Dusty Rhodes**, Hayes, Steamboat, Hansen, DiBiase.

January 1984/COLOR PINUP: Harley Race. **Rick Martel**, Snuka, Freebirds, Dillon, Sawyer.

February 1984/COLOR PINUP: Jim Garvin & Sunshine. **Greg Valentine**, Super Destroyer, Race, Sawyer, Abdullah.

May 1984/COLOR PINUP: Hacksaw Butch Reed. **Hulk Hogan**, Road Warriors, Fabulous Ones, Flair, Rotundo.

June 1984/COLOR PINUP: Dick Slater. **Ted DiBiase**, Wrestling II, Magnum T.A., Patera, Hogan.

July 1984/COLOR PINUP: Paul Ellering. **Jimmy Valiant**, JYD, Fab Ones, Gagne, Windham.

August 1984/COLOR PINUP: Stan Hansen. **Jerry Lawler**, Sullivan, Slaughter, Blackwell & Patera, Flair.

October 1984/COLOR PINUP: Billy Jack. **Kerry Von Erich**, Martel, Blanchard, Fabulous Blonds, Armstrong.

November 1984/COLOR PINUP: Rick Martel. **Sgt. Slaughter**, Von Erich, Road Warriors, Windham, Rotundo.

January 1985/COLOR PINUP: Tito Santana. **Road Warriors**, Billy Jack, Hayes, 1984 fan ballot.

February 1985/COLOR PINUP: Magnum T.A. **Rick Martel**, Hogan, Backlund, Ellering.

April 1985/COLOR PINUP: Ronnie Garvin, **Jimmy Snuka**, Warriors, Gordy, Flair, Rhodes.

June 1985/COLOR PINUP. Barry Windham. **Dusty Rhodes**, Slaughter, Hogan, Von Erich, T.A.

July 1985/COLOR PINUP: Sgt. Slaughter. **Hogan vs. Piper**, Warriors, One Man Gang, T.A., Martel.

September 1985/COLOR PINUP: Junkyard Dog. **Magnum T.A**, Von Erich, Hogan, AWA scouting reports.

October 1985/COLOR PINUP: Chris Adams. **Rick Steamboat**, Warriors, Nikita, WWF scouting reports.

November 1985/COLOR PINUP: Randy Savage. **Ric Flair**, Slaughter, Steamboat, World Class scouting reports.

December 1985/COLOR PINUP: Jesse Ventura. **Great American Bash**, Von Erich, Orndorff, Williams & DiBiase.

January 1986/COLOR PINUP: Hacksaw Duggan. **Hulk Hogan**, T.A., Brody.

February 1986/COLOR PINUP: Nikita Koloff. **Mike Von Erich**, Warriors, Santana, Taylor, Barbarian, Race.

April 1986/COLOR PINUP: Ric Flair. **Wendi Richter**, Adams & Hernandez, Dusty & Warriors vs. Flair & Andersons.

May 1986/COLOR PINUP: Rick Steamboat. **Road Warriors**, Humongous, Bulldogs, Hansen vs. Martel.

June 1986/COLOR PINUP: Kevin Von Erich. **Hulk Hogan**, Adams, Duggan, Scott Hall.

July 1986/COLOR PINUP: King Kong Bundy. **R & R Express**, Hall and Hennig, Ventura, Warriors.

August 1986/COLOR PINUP: Dusty Rhodes. **Randy Savage**, Lugar vs. Race, Blanchard vs. Flair, Rude.

October 1986/COLOR PINUP: John Studd. **Nikita Koloff**, Savage vs. Bundy, Landell, Flair vs. Lugar, Simpson.

November 1986/COLOR PINUP: Baby Doll. **British Bulldogs**, Von Erich, Hansen, Gordy, Flair-Tully-Arn-Ole.

December 1986/COLOR PINUP: Great American Bash. **Great American Bash**, Midnight Rockers, Von Erich, Windham.

January 1987/COLOR PINUP: Fabulous Freebirds. **Roddy Piper**, Nikita vs. T.A., Snuka, Simpson.

February 1987/COLOR PINUP: Savage & Elizabeth. **UWF Tournament**, T.A., Baby Doll, Hogan vs. Orndorff.

April 1987/COLOR PINUP: Lex Luger. **Dusty & Nikita**, DiBiase, DeBeers, Dingo, WWF Housecleaning.

May 1987/COLOR PINUP: Steve Williams. **Andre-Hogan**, UWF Tourny, Albano, Cornette, Dynamite Kid, Kerry.

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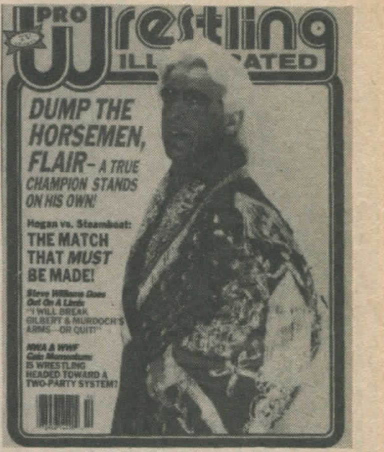
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October 1987/COLOR PINUP: Ted DiBiase. **Ric Flair**, Williams, Rockers, Hogan vs. Steamboat, NWA & WWF.

November 1987/COLOR PINUP: George Steele. **Nikita Koloff**, Warriors, Harts, Hogan, Windham.

January 1988/COLOR PINUP: The Road Warriors. **Ted DiBiase**, Flair-Garvins, Hogan & Ventura, Zbyszko.

February 1988/COLOR PINUP: Ronnie Garvin. **Randy Savage**, Garvin-Flair, Von Erichs, Freebirds.

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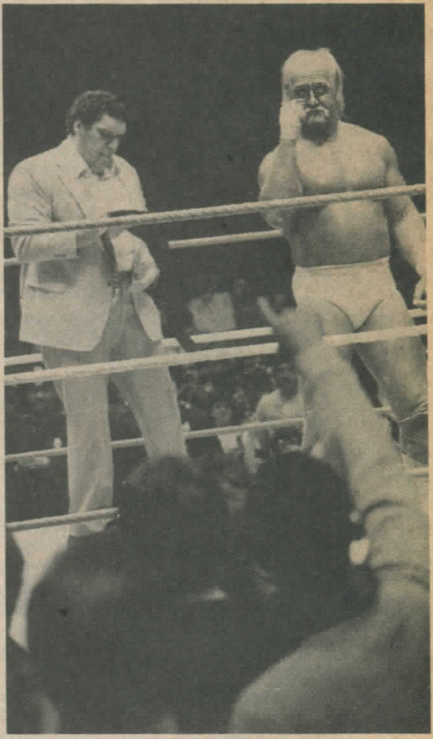
THE SCANDAL

(Continued from page 35)

unsure if even he had enough money for that task. He settled on Andre, for two reasons.

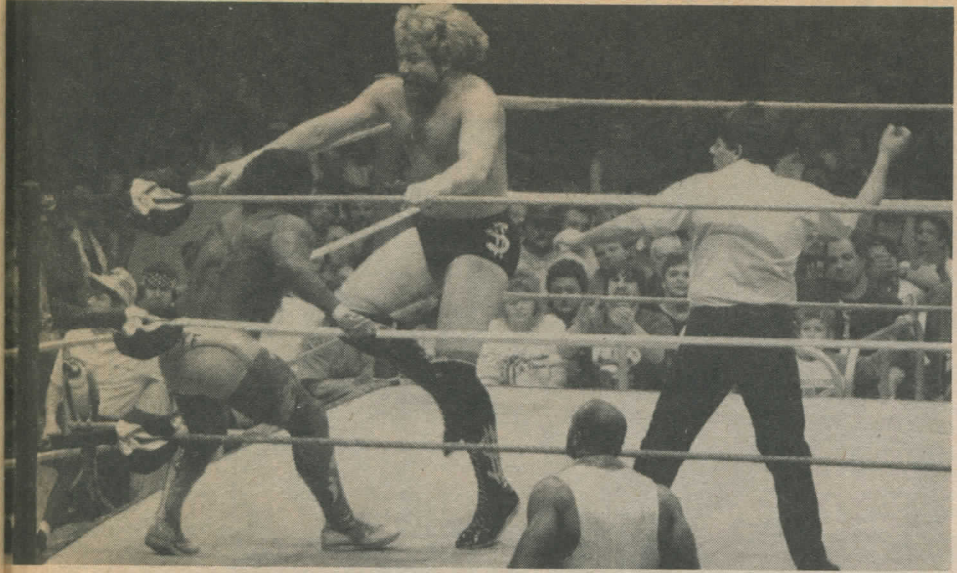
"First, Ted always admired Andre," a close friend of DiBiase's remarked. "Like everyone else, Ted was impressed by Andre's unbeaten streak and the way he completely dominated his opponents. He wanted his name to be known all over the world, just like Andre's was.



"Second," the friend continued, "Ted liked how Andre finally realized that he had to go after the title, regardless of what the fans thought. Ted also realizes that you can't be a nice guy your whole career. He says his eyes have been opened to all the possibilities."

These two kindred spirits have now conspired to deal with one of the most coveted prizes in the sport like a used car. The plan is evil in its simplicity: Andre defeats Hogan, Andre sells the belt to DiBiase, DiBiase is champion.

The deal is encouraged by Heenan who, interestingly, had initially opposed any notion of buying or selling the title. He argued that he and his men had worked long and hard to win the belt legitimately. Although Heenan



Hogan has barely begun celebrating his victory when Andre climbs into the ring to get a close look at the title belt (opposite page). DiBiase (above, driving a knee into Koko B. Ware) will get an even closer look if his plan succeeds.

has often cheated in pursuit of his goals, he apparently had never considered paying for a championship—which was one of the few good things one could say about "The Brain."

But his mind was quickly changed when DiBiase dangled big bucks in front of his eyes. Heenan's self-righteous objections suddenly melted away and the bargain was struck. The manager was convinced that he was making the best deal possible. All he needed was one moment of glory, one moment as manager of the heavyweight champion of the world, and he would gladly give it up for his and Andre's financial security. But what about the rest of his stable?

"Believe it or not, Heenan's men don't care if he sells DiBiase the belt," said a source close to fellow WWF manager Slick. "They figure it would be easier to go after someone who's not in their stable than after Andre, who they like and respect. Some of them are even jealous of how DiBiase flaunts his wealth. Don't be surprised to see one or two of them challenge DiBiase if he gets the title."

Some will say there is no danger in the Andre-DiBiase pact because Andre will never win the belt from Hogan. They cite Hogan's WrestleMania III victory as proof. But recall that Andre very nearly had the champion pinned early in the match in what could best be described as a count of two-and-seven-eighths. The champion was beaten for much of that match before mounting a late comeback. Hogan knows he'd have a much tougher go of it the next time around.

So does DiBiase.

"Andre's not in great shape, everybody knows that," said veteran reporter Matt Brock, "but don't sell him short. He wouldn't have won all those matches if he didn't know the sport inside and out. The Giant still has a few good fights left in him. Believe it. DiBiase's offer is fiendishly canny."

No one knows what it will take to turn Andre away from Heenan and back toward the fans. For years he was one of the most beloved men in the sport. His only objective was pleasing his admirers. Winning titles meant nothing; if it had, Andre would have won a bushelful. Now, after a nearly successful campaign against Hogan, even the title means nothing—money seems to be Andre's only objective in agreeing to the DiBiase deal.

WWF President Jack Tunney appears unwilling to deal with the controversy in a forthright manner. He talks about the WWF's "bylaws," but doesn't seem to know how to apply them. Tunney's waffling on the issue is shameful. He must act quickly—and in the best interests of wrestling—or the sport will suffer a horrendous tragedy.

And Ted DiBiase will have bought himself a world title. ☐

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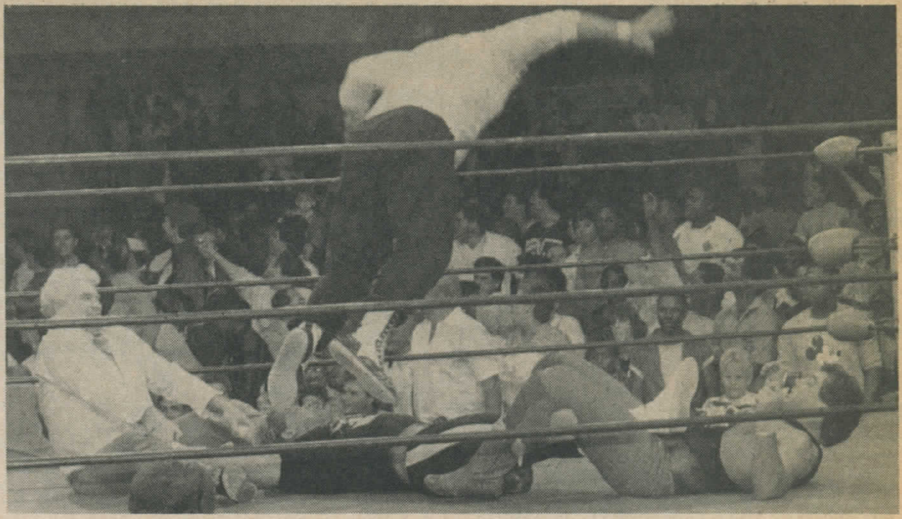
LEX LUGER

(Continued from page 37)



As J.J. Dillon and Tully Blanchard hold Luger back, Arn Anderson continues his assault (above). J.J. Dillon must have felt awfully secure with Luger and Flair on either side of him (below).

them so they could protect their friend Flair. I was being used the whole time, but I didn't fully realize it until the night I lost the U.S. belt to Dusty Rhodes."

Luger's anger for the Horsemen means trouble for Flair. "The Nature Boy" has captured the title five times since September 1981. His shortest reign was his second, which lasted six months 12 days from November 24, 1983, to May 6, 1984; that time, however, he regained the title only 18 days after he lost it to Kerry Von Erich. Flair's third reign lasted two years two months, which means he held the belt for all but 18 days of 32 months since late 1981.

This fifth reign, begun at Starrcade '87, may well be his shortest of all. The reason is Luger.

"I've always had the utmost respect for Lex's ability as a wrestler," said Windham. "Now that he's on the right side of the fence—opposite the Horsemen—you're really going to see something. Now he's only going to be wrestling for himself, and he's not gonna have to worry about Dillon messing him up. All I can say is that Flair is in big trouble. Flair will have a tough time holding him off."

Indeed he will, because Luger has an edge over Flair in several key categories:

- **Strength.** With possible exception of The Road Warriors, Luger has the best physique in the NWA. Even while a member of the Horsemen, who have a well-known propensity for partying, Luger maintained a strict training regimen. In fact, he's probably in better shape now than he was when he first came to the World Championship area. This dedication has paid off. Luger, though improving his wrestling skills every day, often wins matches on strength alone. Flair is in good shape, but he's hardly a powerhouse like Luger.
- **Youth.** Flair is a war-torn veteran of the game. He's been through dozens of intense feuds and made dozens of enemies. Luger, on the other hand, is very young and has never suffered a major ring injury. Although he made enemies while with the Horsemen, he probably was the

(Continued on page 60)

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June 1980/Graham, Patera, Rhodes, Lawler, Zbyszko.

July 1980/Bruno-Graham, Samoans, Star Wars 1980.

October 1980/Hogan, Flair, Wrestling II, Super D.

January 1981/Morales-Fuji, Zbyszko, Thornton, Keirn.

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November 1981/Rhodes-DiBiase, Steamboat, Mulligan, McDaniel, Spoiler.

December 1981/Muraco-Morales, Patera, Steele, Andre.

March 1982/Valentine, Brisco-Funk, Steele, Flair, Hayes.

April 1982/Spoiler, Idol-Hayes, Morales, Super D, Ladd.

May 1982/Rich-Flair, Backlund, Superstar, Dillon, Wrestling II.

June 1982/Tommy Rich, Jimmy Snuka, Wrestlers rate each other.

July 1982/Steamboat-Idol, Albano, Rhodes, Patera.

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January 1983/Rich, McDaniel-Valentine, Patera, Brisco, Bockwinkel.

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February 1984/Rich-Sawyer, Idol-Hansen, Martel, Parsons, Von Erich.

March 1984/Starrcade '83, Closeups on Atlanta and Dallas cards.

April 1984/Von Erich-Gordy, Dillon & Nagasaki, Graham, DiBiase, Orndorff.

May 1984/LeDuc-Sawyer, Assassins, The Men Who Make Wrestling Fly!

June 1984/Windham-Flair, Gilbert, Sawyer, Bockwinkel, Tsuruta.

July 1984/Flair-Gordy, Duggan, Blanchard, Brisco, AWA tag tourny.

August 1984/Rich & Gilbert, Adams-Hayes, Von Erich, Faces Of Wrestling.

September 1984/Flair-Steamboat, Freebirds-Von Erichs—Special coverage of two big cards.

October 1984/Sullivan-Rhodes, Freebirds video, Atlas, Orange Bowl card.

November 1984/Von Erich & Billy Jack, Andre, Fab Ones, Summer Wars!

December 1984/Rich-Gilbert, Martel, Mascaras, Youngblood, World Class.

January 1985/Flair-McDaniel, Missing Link, Backlund, Fabulous Ones, *Pro Wrestling USA*, Valentine.

February 1985/Sullivan-Graham, Hernandez & Nicola Roberts, Bruno Jr., Steamboat, Warriors.

March 1985/Starrcade '84 featuring Flair, Rhodes, Steamboat, Koloffs, 1985 Datebook, Hayes, wrestling school.

April 1985/Von Erich-Blackwell, Haynes-Barr, Hart, Irwins, 1984 in Pictures, Blair.

May 1985/Albano, Freebirds-Flair, Steamboat, Hernandez, Las Vegas.

June 1985/Pro Wrestling U.S.A, Von Erich, Richter, Windham, Taylor.

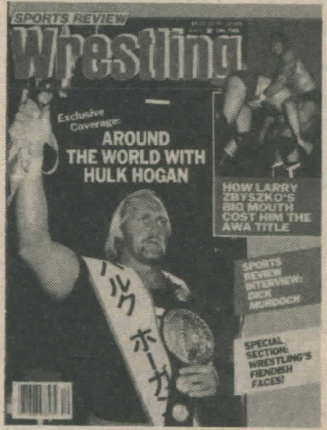
July 1985/Von Erich, WrestleMania, bloodiest matches, Backlund, Snuka.

August 1985/Flair-Nikita, Orndorff, Slaughter, Parade of Champions II.

September 1985/Adams-Von Erich, Orndorff, Sawyer, Kamala, Barr.

October 1985/Martel-Hayes, Richter, Savage, Adams, T.A., Warriors.

November 1985/Freebirds-Warriors, Mid-South, Haynes, Rhodes, Savage.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DECEMBER 1985

December 1985/Hogan, Zbyszko-Martel, Murdoch, Dillon, fiendish faces.

January 1986/Savage-Santana, Abdullah, Humongous, Von Raschke, Comiskey Park, Taylor.

February 1986/Junkyard Dog, Rude, Patrick, Garvin, Reed, Datebook.

March 1986/Starrcade '85, Ventura, Windham, Sunshine, Slaughter.

April 1986/Savage-Hogan, Martel-Hansen, 1985 in Pictures, Warriors, DiBiase.

May 1986/Sammartino, R&R Express, Sunshine-Hyatt, Slater, Devastating Holds, Hall & Hennig.

June 1986/Hogan-Muraco, Midnight Express, Freebirds, Battle of Belts II.

July 1986/Orndorff-Piper, Blanchard-T.A., Matches of '80s, Sheepherders Bockwinkel, Bulldogs.

August 1986/Crockett Cup Tourny, Jake Roberts, Midnight Rockers, Von Erichs, Wrestling II.

September 1986/Bulldogs, Blanchard-Gibson, Lugar, Dundee, UWF tourny.

October 1986/Orndorff, Rude-Brody, Bash, Bockwinkel, Gordy, Adams.

November 1986/Andersons-R&R Express, Machine, Gordy, Managers.

December 1986/Machines, Fantastics, Warriors, WWF Muchnick Tourny.

January 1987/Russians, Hyatt-Dark Journey, WWF Top 50, Fab Ones.

February 1987/Road Warriors,Savage, Windham & Lugar, 1987 Datebook.

March 1987/Kamala-Hogan, Starrcade 86, Atlas, Williams, Tatum.

April 1987/1986 In Pictures, Kevin Von, Flair, Rich, Hennig-Bockwinkel.

May 1987/Nikita-Flair, Bulldogs, Albano's career, Snuka-DeBeers, Taylor.

June 1987/Hogan-Andre, Hall, Parsons, Garvin, WWF title history.

July 1987/Midnight Express, Savage-Steamboat, Adams, NWA in Boston.

August 1987/Nord-Kevin, Armstrong-Flair, Hogan & Patera, Crockett Cup.

September 1987/Hogan, Akbar, Luger-Nikita, Summer Feuds, charity shows.

October 1987/Windham, Bigelow, Bockwinkel, Western States tourny.

November 1987/Bash, Honky Tonk, Hart, Sheepherders, Condrey.

December 1987/Grappling Ghouls, Hogan-Andre, Luger-Nikita, Boesch card

January 1988/Honky Tonk, Garvin, T.A. career, Arcidi, Hogan.

February 1988/Rhodes, Strike Force, Rich-Adonis, Hyatt, 1988 datebook.

March 1988/Starrcade, Survivor Series, Simpson, Hennig, Zbyszko.

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WINTER 1985/Color pinup: Barry Windham. **Stories include:** Hogan, Zbyszko, Kerry, R&R Express, Steamboat, Thesz.

SPRING 1986/Color pinup: The Road Warriors. **Stories include:** Martel, Savage vs. Poffo, Hogan, Santana, Steamboat.

SUMMER 1986/Color pinup: Rock 'n' Roll Express & Magnum T.A. **Stories include:** Flair, Warriors, JYD, Magnum, Williams.

FALL 1986/Color pinup: Randy Savage. **Stories include:** R&R Express, Missy, Roberts, Windham, Luger, Rhodes.

WINTER 1986/Color pinup: Hulk Hogan. **Stories include:** Flair, Freebirds, Hogan, Andre, Watts, Haynes, Fantastics.

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SUMMER 1987/Color pinup: Road Warriors workout. **Stories include:** Hogan-Andre, Rockers, Koloff, Warriors, Hall-Luger.

FALL 1987/Color pinup: Dark Journey. **Stories include:** Albano, Hogan, T.A., Lane, Hyatt, Hennig, Luger.

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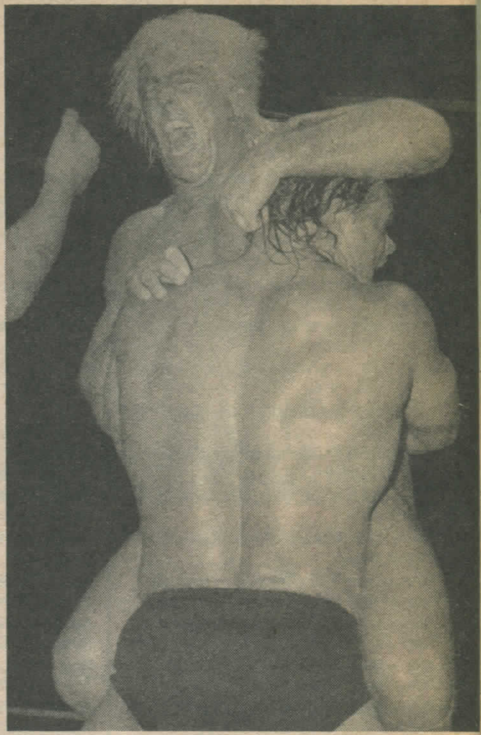
LEX LUGER

(Continued from page 58)



Though far less experienced than Flair, Luger holds a tremendous strength advantage over the NWA World champion.

least hated of the bunch. Luger's youthful exuberance and energy gives him a significant added edge.

- **Revenge.** Luger is angry at Flair for never giving him a title shot when he was a member of the Horsemen. "I don't see what difference it would've made," said Luger. "You don't have to hate a man to wrestle him. I was U.S. champion, and that made me the number-one contender. He could've given me a chance, but he was afraid of me."

Of course, Flair also has several important advantages. He's older, but more experienced. When he wants to be, Flair is one of the finest scientific wrestlers in the game. He also has the Horsemen to help him out of trouble.

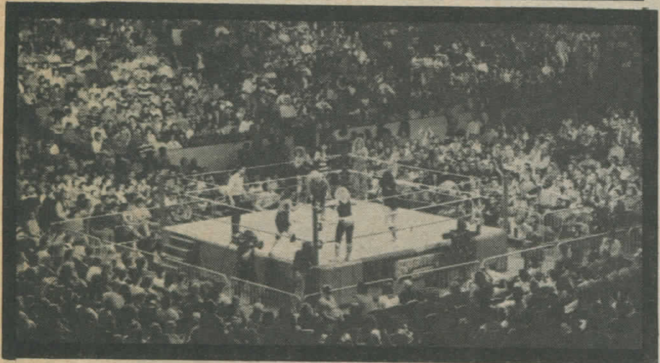
Luger has the ability to overcome all of this. When people say he's going to be the next superstar of professional wrestling, there's enough substance in Luger to back up the claim. If Flair isn't careful, his fifth title reign will be his shortest.

And possibly his last. ☐

THIS MONTH IN...

VICTORY SPORTS SERIES

THE Wrestler



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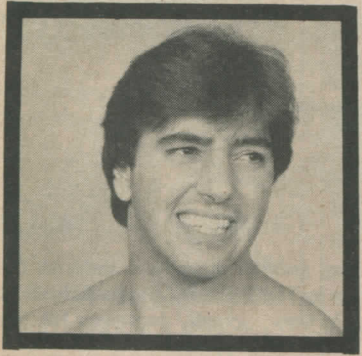

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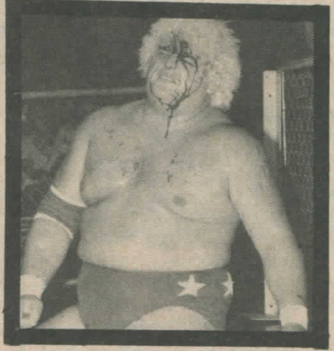

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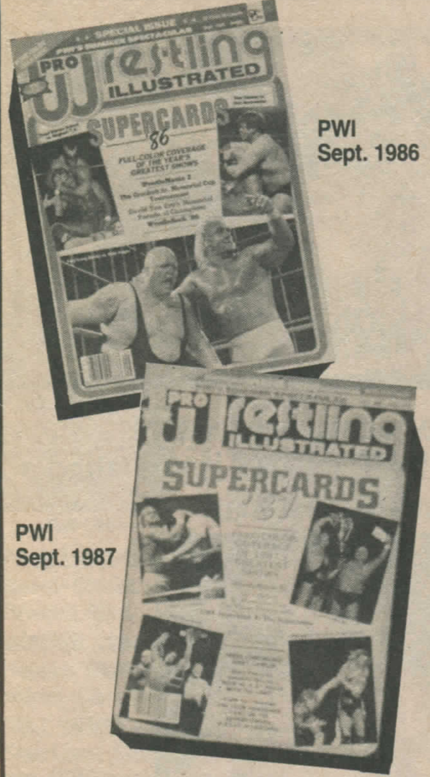

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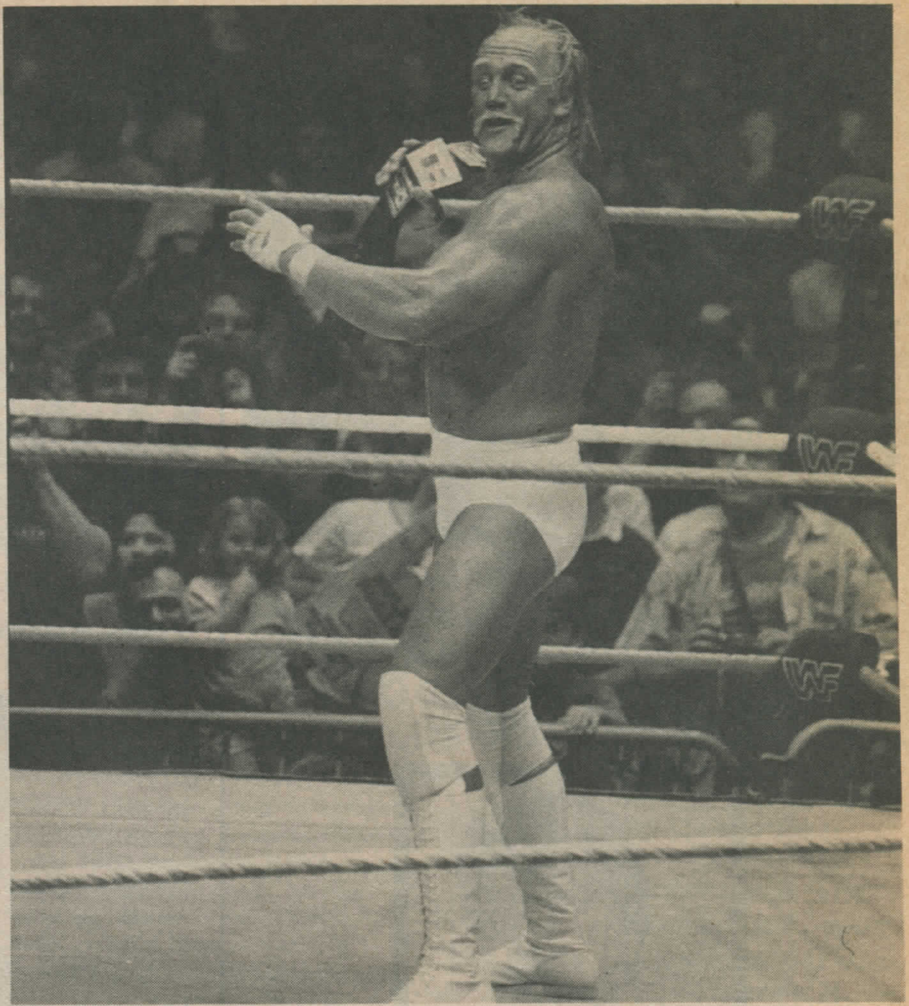
(Continued from page 10)



Hulk Hogan parades around the ring after another successful defense of his WWF World championship. By refusing to sell the title to Ted DiBiase, Hogan insured his good standing with the fans and, in Dave Rosenbaum's view, actually *improved* his financial situation.

The belt that Hogan holds so close to his heart. The belt that Hogan says means more than life itself. The belt that Hogan told us will make him live forever.

Hogan turned down DiBiase's offer.

But it took him a week to make his decision.

And the way it sounded, Hogan came very close to accepting the bribe.

He said he couldn't take the money because of "all the little Hulkamaniacs out there." He said he had a responsibility to the fans, to the title, and to wrestling. But the only loyalty Hogan knows is to himself. If you ask me, Hogan only turned down the money because it would expose him as the fraud he really is.

Imagine if Hogan accepted the offer. His image would have been destroyed. Hogan would have meant nothing to his millions of fans because he no longer would be seen as the defender of right. Hogan comes out on interviews and tells the little Hulkamaniacs to take their vitamins, work hard, say their prayers, and follow the straight and narrow. Selling the World title for money goes against the Hogan image.

In other words, when one considers the money he makes from the many Hulk Hogan products on the market, TV deals, movies, and his own lucrative contract with the World Wrestling Federation, Hogan would've been crazy to accept DiBiase's offer. Hogan accepts the offer and his empire comes crashing down. By refusing the offer, he added to the Hogan legend and, more important, his own bank account.

Hulk Hogan: the man who wouldn't sell his title for seven figures because, in reality, his belt is worth eight or nine.

That's the bottom line, and it makes sense. Still, after watching Hogan make the big announcement on *WWF Wrestling Spotlight,* I got the impression that he almost accepted the easy money. He rationalized how he could use the money to help all the sick little kids that needed it (give us a break) and could retire to a life of leisure (now *that's* more like it).

In fact, I would guess that Hogan didn't make his final decision until the interview with Craig DeGeorge. Cool and calculating, Hogan measured the audience. He made it sound like he was going to accept DiBiase's offer and listened carefully for a reaction. At that precise point, he realized that if he accepted the offer, the whole arena would come crashing down on him. Hogan the fraud wouldn't have gotten out alive.

It was also fun to hear what the fans said after Hogan turned down DiBiase. These people, every last one of them, said Hogan made the right decision and they would've done the same thing.

Right.

The truth is, these greedy little mongrels would've grabbed the money and personally strapped the belt around DiBiase's waist. I know I would have. Anyone who was being honest with themselves, anyone in a nine-to-five job with no hopes of making that kind of money, would have grabbed the cash.

Of course, none of them are as sharp as Hogan, who knew that by turning down millions, he'd make billions. ☐

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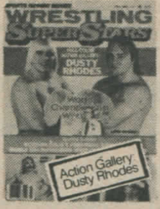
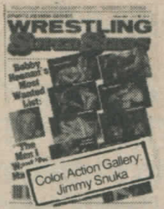

Action Gallery: Dusty Rhodes
☐ Fall/83


Color Action Gallery: Jimmy Snuka
☐ Winter/83

Color Action Gallery: Tommy Rich
☐ Spring/84

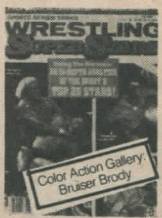
Color Action Gallery: Andre The Giant
☐ Fall/84

Color Action Gallery: Billy Jack
☐ Winter/84

Color Action Gallery: Roddy Piper
☐ Spring/85

Color Action Gallery: Kerry Von Erich
☐ Summer/85

Color Action Gallery: Ric Flair
☐ Spring/86


Color Action Gallery: Bruiser Brody
☐ Fall/86

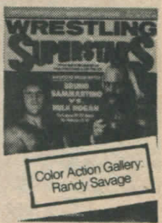
Color Action Gallery: Rick Morton
☐ Winter/86

Color Action Gallery: Hulk Hogan
☐ Spring/87

Color Action Gallery: Cage Match Fury
☐ Summer/87

Color Action Gallery: Rick Steamboat
☐ Fall/87

Color Action Gallery: Great American Bash
☐ Winter/87


Color Action Gallery: Randy Savage
☐ Spring/88

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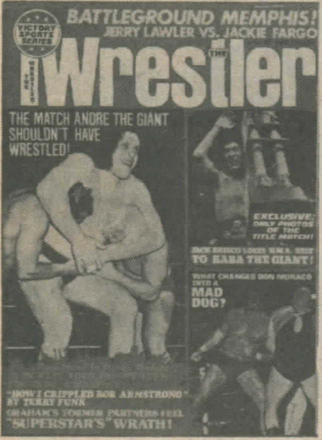


BATTLEGROUND MEMPHIS! JERRY LAWLER VS. JACKIE FARGO
Wrestler
THE MATCH ANDRE THE GIANT SHOULDN'T HAVE WRESTLED!
TO BABA THE GIANT!
MAD DOG?
"HOW I CRIPPLED BOB ARMSTRONG" BY TERRY FUNK
"SUPERSTAR'S" WRATH!

JUNE 1975

June 1975/Stories include: Andre, Muraco, Funk, Lawler.

August 1975/Stories include: Sammartino, Patterson, Stasiak, Rivera.

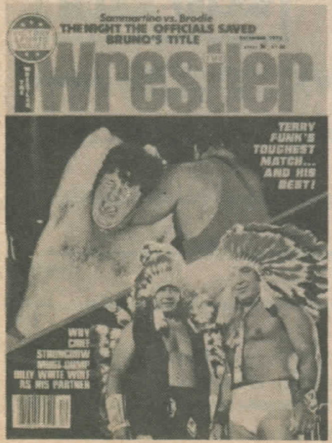
December 1975/Stories include: Mascaras, Rhodes, McDaniel, Blackjacks.

February 1976/Stories include: Andre, Sammartino, Rhodes, Valentine.

July 1976/Stories include: Andre, Wrestling II, Inoki, Von Erich.

November 1976/Stories include: Sammartino, Andre, Valentine, Mosca.

December 1976/Stories include: Von Erich, Mulligan, Brody, Funk.



Sammartino vs. Brodie
THE NIGHT THE OFFICIALS SAVED BRUNO'S TITLE
Wrestler
TERRY FUNK'S TOUGHEST MATCH... AND HIS BEST!

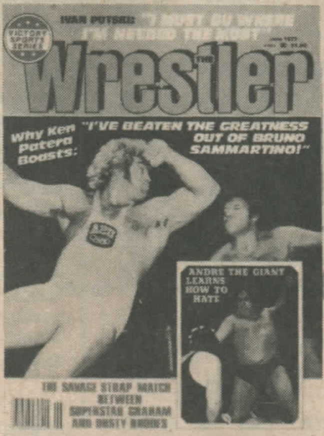
DECEMBER 1976

January 1977/Stories include: Brody, Andre, Wrestling II, Mascaras.

February 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Jones, Funk, Von Raschke.

April 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Funk, Flair, Bockwinkel.

May 1977/Stories include: Mascaras, Valiants, Andersons, Sammartino.



Wrestler
Why Ken Patera Boasts:
"I'VE BEATEN THE GREATNESS OUT OF BRUNO SAMMARTINO!"
ANDRE THE GIANT LEARNS HOW TO HATE
THE SAVAGE STRAP MATCH BETWEEN SUPERSTAR GRAHAM AND DUSTY RHODES

JUNE 1977

June 1977/Stories include: Patera, Putski, Hernandez, McDaniel.

July 1977/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, Rocca, Mascaras.

October 1977/Stories include: Rhodes, Sammartino, Flair, Snuka.

November 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Slater, Mascaras, Snuka.

September 1978/Stories include: Rhodes, Grahams, Andre, Mascaras.

October 1978/Stories include: Sammartino, Backlund, McDaniel, Race.

November 1978/Stories include: Flair, Andre, Ladd, Graham.

December 1978/Stories include: Brisco, Mulligan, Andre, Blanchard.

February 1979/Stories include: Ladd, Flair, Idol, Heenan.

May 1979/Stories include: Steamboat, Brody, Valiants, Race.

July 1979/Stories include: Wrestling II, Backlund, Sammartino, Andre.

August 1979/Stories include: Bockwinkel, Patera, Stevens, Superstar.

September 1979/Stories include: Superstar Gramham, Cyclone Negro, Greg Gagne, Mil Mascaras.

October 1979/Stories include: Flair, Valentine, Santana, Muraco.

December 1979/Stories include: Andre, Graham, Rhodes, Mascaras.

January 1980/Stories include: Race, Backlund, Snuka, Brisco.

February 1980/Stories include: Andre, Flair, DiBiase, Superstar.

March 1980/Stories include: Sammartino, Murdoch, Mulligan, Andre.

April 1980/Stories include: Rhodes, DiBiase, Youngblood, Wrestling II.

May 1980/Stories include: Andre, Mascaras, Bockwinkel, Patera.

June 1980/Stories include: Backlund, Abdullah, Brisco, Flair.

August 1980/Stories include: Valentine, Zbyszko, Von Erich, Albano.

September 1980/Stories include: Ladd, Patera, Steamboat, Gagne.

October 1980/Stories include: Patera, Rhodes, Wrestling II, Morales.

January 1981/Stories include: Valentine, Rhodes, Patera, Von Erich.

February 1981/Stories include: Zbyszko, Patera, Iron Sheik, Wrestling II.

March 1981/Stories include: Rich, Samoans, Blassie, Wrestling II.

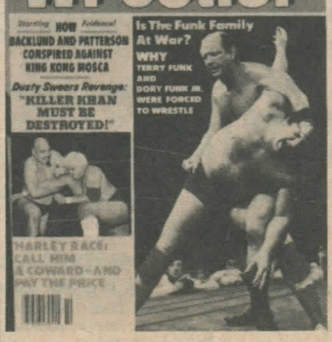
May 1981/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, DiBiase, Moondogs.

June 1981/Stories include: Sammartino, Piper, Rich, Martel.

July 1981/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, Flair, Atlas.

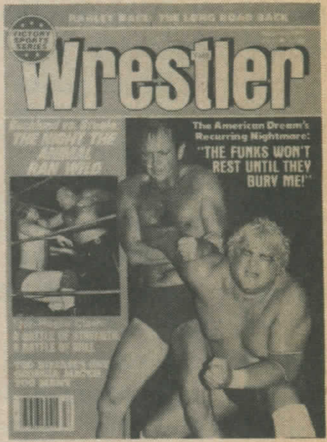
August 1981/Stories include: DiBiase, Slaughter, Martel, Idol.

October 1981/Stories include: Funks, Rhodes, Race, Sullivan.



DUSTY RHODES REGAINS NWA TITLE!
Wrestler
HOW BACKLUND AND PATTERSON CONSPIRED AGAINST KING KONG MOSCA
Dusty Swears Revenge: "KILLER KHAN MUST BE DESTROYED!"
Is The Funk Family At War?
WHY TERRY FUNK AND DORY FUNK JR. WERE FORCED TO WRESTLE
HARLEY RACE: CALL HIM A COWARD—AND PAY THE PRICE

OCTOBER 1981



HARLEY RACE: THE LONG ROAD BACK
Wrestler
The American Dream's Recurring Nightmare: "THE FUNKS WON'T REST UNTIL THEY BURY ME!"

DECEMBER 1981

December 1981/Stories include: Rhodes, Steele, Race, Hogan.

January 1982/Stories include: Rich, Steamboat, Sullivan, Sammartino.

March 1982/Stories include: Slaughter, Albano, Flair, Race.

April 1982/Stories include: Brisco, Armstrongs, Valentine, Santana.

May 1982/Stories include: Backlund, Von Erich, Graham, Rich.

June 1982/Stories include: Steamboat, Reed, Albano, Piper.

July 1982/Stories include: Rich, Sawyer, Flair, Steamboat.

August 1982/Stories include: Bockwinkel, Steamboat, Mulligans, Piper.

September 1982/Stories include: Rhodes, Hogan, Armstrong, Blair.

October 1982/Stories include: Snuka, Rhodes, Santana, Piper.

November 1982/Stories include: Flair, Snuka, Piper, Blair.

December 1982/Stories include: Snuka, Rich, Kamala, Junkyard Dog.

January 1983/Stories include: Putski, Muraco, Windham, Bockwinkel.

February 1983/Stories include: Bockwinkel, Backlund, Rich, Kamala.

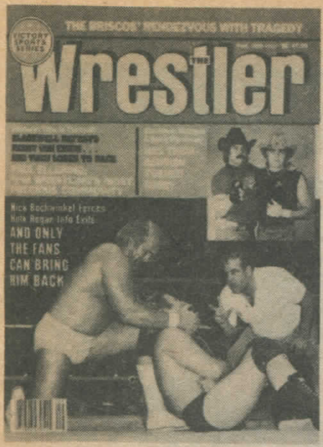
April 1983/Stories include: Rhodes, Tiger Mask, Sammartino, Bundy.

May 1983/Stories include: Samoans, Von Erich, Rhodes, Orndorff.

June 1983/Stories include: Windham, Martel, Brody, Andre.

July 1983/Stories include: Flair, Adonis, Sullivan, Zbyszko.

August 1983/Stories include: Valentine, Blanchard, Windham, Street.


THE BRISCOS' RENDEZVOUS WITH TRAGEDY
Wrestler
AND ONLY THE FANS CAN BRING HIM BACK

SEPTEMBER 1983

September 1983/Stories include: Hogan, Ellering, Von Erich, Briscos.

October 1983/Stories include: Race, Sawyer, Briscos, Bass.

November 1983/Stories include: Rhodes, Santana, Von Erichs, Kabuki.

December 1983/Stories include: Mascaras, Superstar, Von Erich, Zbyszko.

January 1984/Stories include: Valentine, Hogan, Von Erich, Road Warriors.

March 1984/Stories include: Santana, Hogan, Von Erich, Sawyers.

April 1984/Stories include: Hogan, Ellering, Von Erich, Rhodes.

May 1984/Stories include: Windham, Brody, Road Warriors, Junkyard Dog.

June 1984/Stories include: Von Erich, Billy Jack, Flair, Armstrong.

July 1984/Stories include: Rich, Billy Jack, Valiant, Von Erich.

August 1984/Stories include: Garvin, Sullivan, Freebirds, Street.

September 1984/Stories include: Von Erich, Piper, Steamboat, Billy Jack.

October 1984/Stories include: Flair, Rhodes, Magnum T.A., Bundy.

November 1984/Stories include: Billy Jack, Von Erich, Piper, Brody.

December 1984/Stories include: Martel, Santana, Von Erich, Steamboat.

January 1985/Stories include: Von Erich, Warriors, Albano, Koloffs.

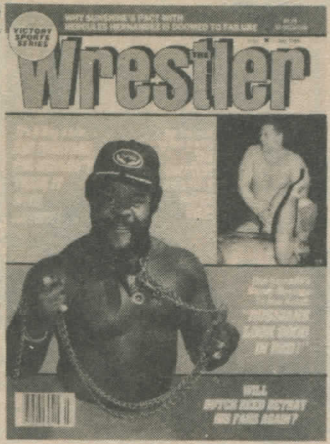
February 1985/Stories include: Warriors, Santana, Billy Jack, Nikita Koloff.

March 1985/Stories include: Slaughter, Warriors, Martel, Rude.

April 1985/Stories include: Warriors, Von Erich-Adams, Flair, Tonga & Snuka.

May 1985/Stories include: Warriors. Backlund, Santana, Rich.

June 1985/Stories include: Rhodes, Windham, Rich, Hogan.



JULY 1985

July 1985/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Reed, Martel, Sunshine.

August 1985/BONUS 4-PG. COLOR SECTION! Plus: Warriors, Magnum T.A., Sheik & Volkoff, McGraw.

September 1985/Stories include: Hogan, Von Erich, Savage, R&R Express.

October 1985/Stories include: Flair, Windham, Shultz, Martel.

November 1985/Stories include: Hogan, Zbyszko, R&R Express, Von Erichs.

December 1985/Stories include: Rude, Fantastics, Muraco, Uncle Elmer.

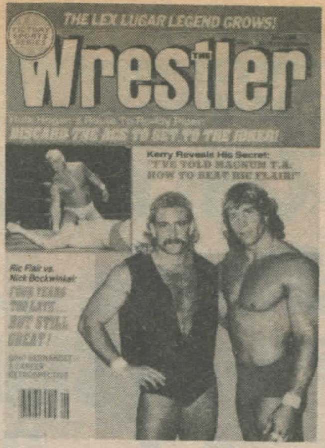
January 1986/20th Anniversary Issue! 10 Greatest Wrestlers, Rhodes, Hogan, Sammartino.

February 1986/Stories include: Hogan, Orndorff, Flair, Hansen.

March 1986/Stories include: Von Erich, Duggan, Hansen-Martel.

April 1986/Stories include: Von Erich, Rude, Lugar, Hogan, Magnum T.A.

May 1986/Stories include: Zbyszko, Von Erichs, Santana-Ventura, Hillbillies.



JUNE 1986

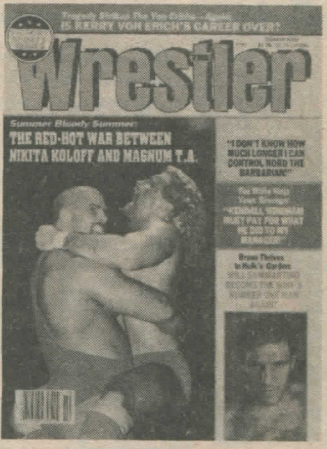
June 1986/Stories include: Lugar, Hernandez, Flair-Bockwinkel, Hogan, T.A.

July 1986/Stories include: King Kong Bundy, Koloff vs. Graham, Ric Flair.

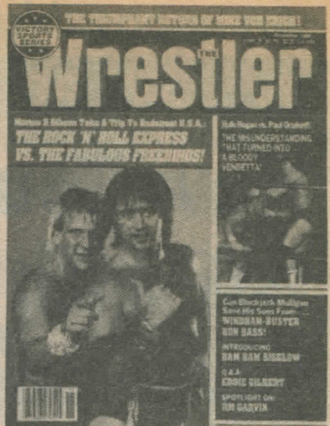
August 1986/Stories include: Snuka, Bulldogs, Freebirds, Warriors, Duggan.

September 1986/Stories include: Fantastics, Adonis, Morton-Flair, Brody.

October 1986/Stories include: Nikita-Magnum, Nord, Bruno, Kerry, Windham.


IS KERRY VON ERICH'S CAREER OVER?
Wrestler
THE RED-HOT WAR BETWEEN NIKITA KOLOFF AND MAGNUM T.A.

OCTOBER 1986



NOVEMBER 1986

November 1986/Stories include: R&R Express, Hogan-Orndorff, Von Erich.

December 1986/Stories include: Flair, Bockwinkel, Hogan, Gilbert, Nikita.

January 1987/Stories include: Heenan, Garvins, DiBiase, Borne & Sawyer.

February 1987/Stories include: Magnum T.A., Gordy, Steamboat-Roberts.

March 1987/Stories include: Windham, Nikita, Adias, Savage-Steamboat.

May 1987/Stories include: Flair-Nikita, Andre-Hogan, UWF, Windham, Hennig.

June 1987/Stories include: Flair-Windham, Can-Ams, Rhodes-Murdoch.

July 1987/Stories include: Cornette, Hyatt, Luger, Harts, Adams, Hansen.

August 1987/Stories include: Can-Ams, Luger vs. Nikita, Fantastics, Koko, Nord.

September 1987/Stories include: Koloffs, Harts, Duggan, Hennig, Hart.

October 1987/Stories include: Savage-Honky Tonk, Horsemen, Patera, Kerry.

November 1987/Stories include: Williams, Luger, Hogan-Khan, Rich.

December 1987/Stories include: Hogan, Windham, Lawler, Flair, Beefcake.

January 1988/Stories include: Nikita-Taylor, Warriors, DiBiase-Duggan.

February 1988/Stories include: Flair, Andre-Hogan, New Breed, Kerry.

March 1988/Stories include: Hogan, Luger-Sting, Calgary, Demolition.

☐ JUNE 75
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You may have thought you'd have to "pump iron" six hours a day to be able to enjoy the kind of muscular build other men envy and girls love.

Not so! Now a revolutionary new method, "3 Easy Muscle-Building Sessions a Week," adds inches to your arms, strength to your back and legs, and that gorgeous muscle-ripple to your stomach—literally in front of your own eyes.

Days, Not Months!

Your mirror won't lie to you. Within a week your friends will see a change. When you put on a T-shirt they, and you, will wonder where all the muscles came from. Your build will taper from shoulders to waist the way you've always dreamed it might.

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Grab the "love handles" at your beltline. If you have more than an inch of flab at the waist, read this next paragraph very carefully:

If you really want to get rid of that flab and have a trim, rock-hard belly, you can do it. Absolutely. That goes for arms and legs too.

"I'm Too Fat." "I'm Too Skinny."

There's no such thing as a man's body that can't be built up.

You can be fat as a tub or skinny as a stick. So what? You're making a fresh, new start. In days you'll look at your mirror in triumph, not chagrin.

Most men don't want to look as though they spend all day in the gym. They aren't entering a "Mr. Universe" contest.

No, what they want is to look good in a bathing suit. They want to have the "V" from shoulders to waist. They want to have that lean, healthy, muscular look women love. They want to feel strong. They want to surge with vigor.

And there's no reason they can't. There's no reason you can't.

Oh, correction, there might be one reason: If you don't bother to find out.

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Put your name and address on the coupon and mail it.

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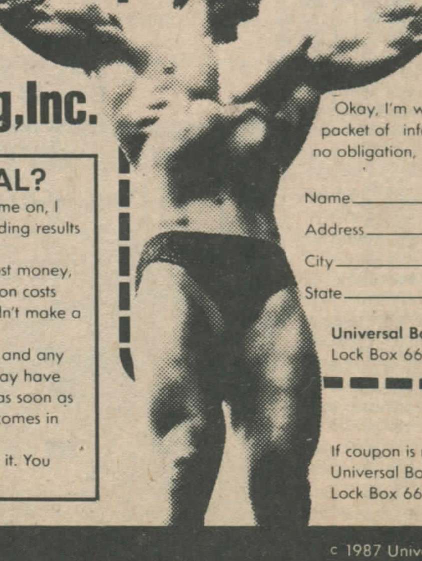

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LOCKS • KEYS • SERVICE AND REPAIR

Be Your Own Boss!

Get into this booming high-profit business that's Easy to learn—Easy to do—Easy on You!

Never before have money-making opportunities been so great for qualified Locksmiths. Now lucrative regular lock and key business has multiplied a thousandfold as millions seek more protection against zooming crime. **Yet there's only one Locksmith for every 17,000 people!**

Start Collecting CASH PROFITS Right Away

You're in "business" ready to earn $10 to $26.00 an hour a few days after you begin Foley-Belsaw's shortcut training. Take advantage of today's unprecedented opportunities in locksmithing for year - round EXTRA INCOME in spare time — or fulltime in a high-profit business of your own. Hundreds we've trained have done it. So can YOU! All tools plus professional Key Machine given you with course. These plus practice materials and equipment plus simple, illustrated lessons, plus expert supervision, plus business building guidance will enable you the KEEP THE MONEY COMING IN! Ideal for retirement — good jobs, too.

SEND FOR EXCITING FACTS—No Obligation

Discover what's in Locksmithing for you — how Foley-Belsaw's Master Locksmith-approved training can give you the skill you can depend on to EARN MORE — ENJOY LIFE MORE.

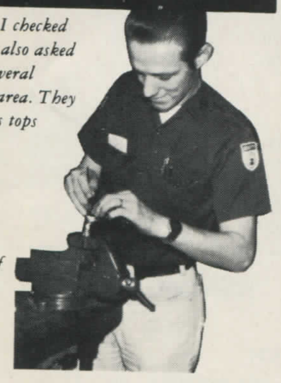
No Extra Cost! **Included With Your Locksmith Training**

BURGLAR ALARM and SECURITY SYSTEMS training. Covers all phases of Burglar, Hold-Up and Fire Alarm servicing and installation. This valuable and timely instruction includes all special tools and supplies. ONLY Foley-Belsaw offers such extensive training in this rapidly expanding field as a part of your Locksmith training.

ADVANCED Locksmithing!
How to change combinations, install and service Safe, Vault and Bank Safe-Deposit Box locks. You'll find it fascinating and highly profitable work.

BE A LOCKSMITH!

Hundreds of Foley-Belsaw trained men have succeeded in this fascinating and highly profitable field . . .



"Before enrolling I checked other courses and also asked for advice from several locksmiths in my area. They all said yours was tops and has the most versatile Key Machine.

"I always wanted to be in business for myself and now I am . . . thanks to Foley-Belsaw Institute.

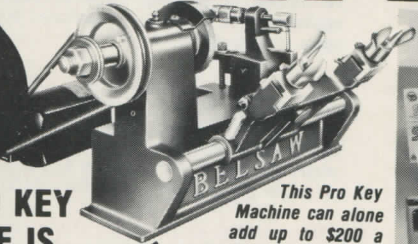
David Fairbrother—Dave's Locksmith Service
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53209

"I opened my own business, spare time, seven months after I enrolled and made a profit of $329 for the first week."
***B. A. Deberry** Littleton, Colorado*

"No more hard, nasty work for me. Now I have my own business and with hardly any effort I average around $50 a day. Thanks for my new start in life."
***Sam Walker** Prichard, Alabama*

...YOU Can Do It Too!

30-DAY NO RISK TRIAL! Send for details!



THIS PRO KEY MACHINE IS YOURS TO KEEP! **FREE**

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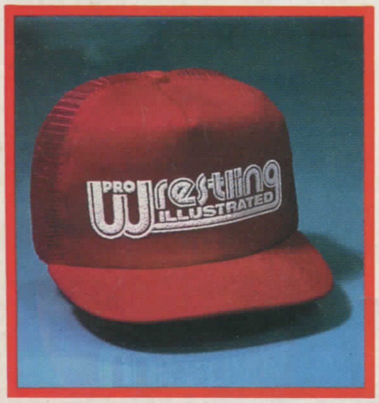
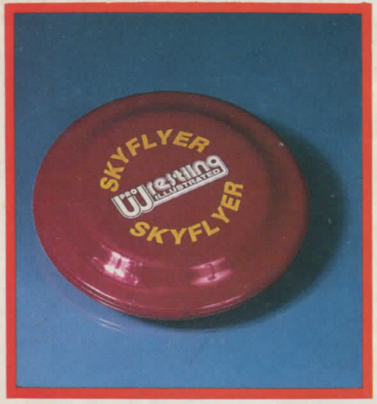


PWI CAP



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Get ready for summer fun the whole year-round with the only flying disc to bear the official *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* name. A bright red disc with yellow and white lettering, the *PWI* "Skyflyer" is constructed of sturdy plastic for years of enjoyment. A full 9¼ inches in diameter. Only $5.00

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Wear the *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* button proudly on your shirt, jacket, or hat to show the world you love pro wrestling. A sturdy button with safety pin backing, the official *PWI* button is oblong in shape and measures 1¾ inches by 2¾ inches. Dynamic red logo on bright yellow background. Only $1.00.

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PWI SKYFLYER	$5.00 ea.		
PWI BUMPER STICKER	$2.00 ea.		
PWI BUTTON	$1.00 ea.		
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